

WHAT YOUR MONEY IS WORTH

Comparative Value of Coins of Different Countries of the World Explained.

How much is a franc? A mark? A dollar? To be well posted a man should be familiar with the money in circulation in foreign lands, observes the Columbus Dispatch. And if the man is of military age or inclination there is no telling how soon he may be called upon to exchange his perfectly good American dollars for the medium of circulation in France, England, Russia, Germany or other European countries. Of course values are changing almost daily, as regards the exchange of foreign money for Uncle Sam's dollars, but under ordinary conditions it can be figured that in Germany the mark is worth 23.8 cents in United States money. The German thaler is equal to three marks, and the krone (a gold piece) equals ten marks. In England the sovereign (gold) is worth \$4.8665, a pound sterling; the penny equals two of our cents, the crown \$1.21 and the shilling 24 cents.

It is interesting to note that the franc of France (worth 19.3 cents) is also the unit of currency in Belgium and Switzerland, and that it is equal to the peseta of Spain, and lira of Italy, the drachma of Greece, the leu of Roumania, the dinar of Serbia and the bolivar of Venezuela. The Russian ruble, normally, is worth 51.5 cents, the piaster of Turkey 4.4 cents, the Japanese yen 49.8 cents, the Mexican peso (silver) 49.8 cents and the Chinese tael 75 cents to 83 cents. And there's no wonder that "Chinese money" is tossed about so carelessly, for the copper cash (China's monetary unit) is worth a United States dollar when you have 1,750 of them.

In British East India "pie" (the popular coin) is cheap. An American penny buys four.

FOUGHT IN SERBIAN RANKS

Bravery of Irish Woman Rewarded by Highest Decoration Crown Prince Could Bestow.

Sergt. Maj. Flora Sandes, an Irish woman who for two years has been serving with the gallant Serbian army, is now in London on leave of absence for a few weeks.

"In August, 1914, I went to Serbia as a nurse," she said, when asked to tell something of her war experiences. "After the terrible retreat in which I took part I joined the regimental ambulance. When cut off from that I obtained permission to join the Serbian army as a private. For two years I was in the thick of most of the fighting. At the taking of Hill 1212 (Macedonian front) a hand grenade exploded near me and I fell badly wounded. My company, which was in advance of our main body, was outnumbered by the Bulgarians, but they refused to fall back when ordered to do so, declaring they would not leave me to the mercy of the enemy.

"When I was being dragged off to safety through the snow they remained behind, fighting a rear-guard action. The next day our troops attacked again and drove the Bulgarians out of their trenches. In them they found the bodies of a number of our men, each one with his throat cut. That is the favorite method of disposing of prisoners." It was after the capture of Hill 1212 that the Irish Amazon, while lying in hospital, was awarded by the Serbian crown prince the Kara-George decoration, which is the Serbian equivalent of the British Victoria Cross. Three other decorations she has received for bravery in the field.

The Line in Lorraine.
Lorraine means "Lothair's Kingdom," but certainly its most famous figure was that duke of Lorraine, Godfrey of Bouillon, the hero of many fabled exploits, who was said to have cloven asunder the body of a Moslem emir with one stroke of his good sword, who was leader of the first crusade, who saw the deliverance of Jerusalem and became the ruler of that Holy City wrested from pagan hands. The American soldier might do worse than swear "By Godfrey!" Whether we now hold a mile or five miles will presently be of no importance, for our expeditionary forces have but made a beginning. A look at the map will satisfy any American how much of the front line our men should be defending before many months have passed.

Use for Clothespins.
Clothespins make an excellent plaything for babies. They can be used for babies or soldiers, or to make fences, trees, log houses and many other interesting things. Playthings that can be taken apart and put together again are good to have; also blocks with which the child can build all kinds of objects—engines that he can push along the floor, balls to bounce and throw, doll carriages, washing sets, etc. Dolls with clothes that button and unbutton and come off may be used to teach the children how to dress and undress themselves.

Tommy's Curious Callings.
The British Tommy has always been famous for the brilliance of his powers of romance. If asked questions he did not want to answer by people who had no right to know. The latest illustration is afforded by a repatriated soldier of a Welsh regiment. He had been a prisoner in the camp at Gutrow, where the German authorities, with a view to securing skilled labor, were anxious to learn the occupation of the prisoners. But surely never before were there such callings—a trolley-bender, watchmakers' striker, a mill-stone inspector. The Germans gave it up.

GUS EKSMAN WRITES FROM FRANCE.

Somewhere in France, August 24, 1918.

Hello Doc! It has been over two months since I have heard from you. Hope this letter finds you all well, as I am feeling fine. Well, what do you think of it? Last Sunday evening I was walking down the street and here came Glenn Porter along on his way to supper. It sure was a surprise I mean to tell you. He says to the boys that were with him, "H—ll, I don't want any supper now, not a bit hungry." So I thought if he was not hungry he might be "thirsty and we went and sampled the beer and wine. He had only arrived here that morning. Went down to see him the next morning before he left to find out where he was going. He is only out a few miles and think I will get to see him again soon.

O, yes, received the socks o. k. Many thanks. Keep track of all and will pay you later. If you are ever allowed to send packages from there, wish you would send me a pair of leather gloves, lined. For they will come in pretty handy this winter. While I am asking favors, wish you would send me a couple of Sunday Oregonians so I can find out what is going on back there. Did you ever receive the copy of Stars and Stripes I mailed to you?

It sure has been hot here the last week, but is raining today. We are sure tanned up, as we had to bid goodbye to our service hats a long time ago and the little caps do not give much protection from the sun. This does not worry us any though, for don't you think the boys are doing fine over here? Old Kaiser Bill will know he has been somewhere before we get through with him. Our command is, Forward. You don't know what you are missing for not being over here, but of course you are doing more good back home than what I am doing over here.

Only four of us in the tent that I am in so each one has a corner. Have my corner all pasted with pictures out of papers, and think it looks nifty. I tell you the U. S. box cars look mighty good along side of the little French cars. A five-ton U. S. truck hauls bigger loads than a French box car holds. Believe me, the French take notice of the Americans too. Well, we have a black dog and a white cat adopted in our company. The dog sleeps at night with the blacksmith. The other night the dog tried to kick Abe (that is the blacksmith) out of bed that made him mad so he grabs the dog by the collar and throws him out doors.

One thing, you never get lonesome over here; something doing all the time. Only had the blues once, about a month ago, but happened to get a couple of letters, and goodbye blues, for that is a quick cure over here, but we have not had any mail for several weeks now. Glenn was telling me that Clark had the Mail now; tell him hello for me.

The Red Cross is doing fine work though, and so is the Salvation Army, although the latter is hardly ever mentioned. Anything you give to those two is all right.

How is Constance? Tell her that sugar she is saving tastes mighty good to us. Best regards to all.

Your friend,
Wagoner Gus C. Eksman,
Eng. Wag. Train, Wag. Co. 4,
23rd Engineers,
Eng. Wag. Train, Wag. Co. 4.

"THE CREDITORS."

By R. Mejl Oliver.

Each mother's son who has given his life
In Freedom's fight over there,
Each wooden cross that points to the sky
Demands that you do your share.

Each Belgian babe that has lost his home,
The fatherless, motherless, too,
Cry for succour, but not in vain,
For their cries are heard by you.

Each tender nurse who mothers us
Back to health and strength again
Can't work alone, she needs your help,
Though far from the field of pain.

Each dawn that rises seen on the tape
Your sons, waiting the word to go,
And when the barrage thunders down,
They have never faltered or gone too slow.

So each over here can do a share,
Though not in an active way,
Just buy a bond and help to drive
To his den the world's beast of prey.

Drive him to his den and across the door
The stone of Liberty roll,
And blot out the name that has blood stained
Civilization's sacred scroll.



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