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THE "CAUSE" OF THE WAR DEAD

It is one of the ironies of fate that just as the hopes of the kaiser and his junkers go glimmering, and all hope of eventually winning the war vanishes, that Gabriel Principe, the man who assassinated the Austrian Archduke Ferdinand and his morganatic wife at Sarajevo, passed away in the fortress where he was confined. It was this act of a madman that was seized upon by the kaiser as an excuse for starting his campaign to overthrow all governments and make himself dictator of the world. He at once began to pull the strings that made poor old Francis Joseph dance and so an ultimatum was delivered to Serbia which neither it nor any other country could comply with. This was done intentionally and with the view of forcing France and Russia into the war. The kaiser had supposed England would keep out of the fight—he intending to take care of her at his leisure when the other nations were disposed of. He relied also on Italy staying with the central powers and indeed had things nicely arranged. Undoubtedly the successful flights of the Zeppelins had much to do with his selecting the time for beginning the war. He had an exaggerated idea of the power of these war machines and believed he could control the air, and therefore the world. No doubt without these he would have made the attempt at world domination just the same, but not perhaps until a later date. It is quite in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that the madman whose act was made the excuse for the war should pass just as the hopes of the kaiser and his gang vanish.

According to a news item in a recent issue of the Capital Journal, Salem may experience a shortage of gas this summer and fall. This would be a serious matter, as many firms, particularly printers, are almost absolutely dependent upon gas for melting their type metal, and other purposes. Then, too, many households have no other means of cooking or even heating water except with gas. Particularly is this true in apartment houses, where there are no chimney flues and where wood stoves could not be installed. Owing to the national effort being made to conserve food by home canning and preserving, there is a large demand for gas for this purpose, as the work is generally done in the warm weather. A shortage of gas would, therefore, hamper this work to a considerable extent. Naturally we all hope that such arrangements will be made that it will not be necessary to reduce the supply of gas in Salem.

The defense of Mont Kemmel will go down in history with Thermopylae and Balaklava. When General Foch sent the French regiment surrounded on the hill the message: "Hold Mont Kemmel to the death," he was obeyed literally. The story says they fought against overwhelming odds for six hours and finally reduced in numbers "were overrun by the German hordes and tramped out as an ant hill in the sand." A nation composed of such men cannot be conquered. It may be destroyed, but it cannot be whipped.

There are a number of nations that have their soldiers on the west front, and among these are English, French, Americans, Portuguese, Hindus, Scotch, Irish, Welsh, and no doubt many other races, and now comes word that 50,000 of the flower and pick of the Chinese army are to be fighting on this front along with the others by the first of June. Pretty nearly all the balance of the world is either fighting the kaiser or sympathizing with those who are.

The Sinn Feiners will not accept Home Rule in any form but demand absolute freedom from the British empire. They want, or say they do, to have Ireland a republic. This would be all right until the first election became necessary. After that there would be a resolution followed by another and still another indefinitely. The Orangemen and the Catholics will never agree, and that is the whole situation in the past, now and forevermore.

RAISE IN PRICES NOT JUSTIFIED

Not in many instances are the sharp advances in prices of goods justified. The war is merely an excuse for the profiteers to exploit the people, and the sharpest advances are made in the necessities of life because these must be had. Shoes, clothing and food supplies are priced so that the manufacturer is reaping a golden harvest while the public pays "war prices."

Of course, the government has done much to curb profiteering or conditions would have been intolerable by this time. As the war machinery is being perfected more industries and products will come under official control and this policy will benefit the general consumer. Rubber supplies were taken over recently and the price boosting of automobile tires and many other products will be stopped at once.

In most instances "war prices" are merely an expression of effort on part of profiteers to get rich quick in time of a great national crisis and a raise of 50 per cent is made where perhaps 10 per cent is really justified.

The outlook for both Fall and Spring wheat is splendid. The authorities estimate that the yield this year may be close to 900,000,000 bushels. At the same time crop conditions in the allied countries are far better than last year, and the probability is that all restrictions on the use of flour will be removed soon after harvest begins, or as soon as the yield is assured.

The junkers are convinced that the attaching to Alsace and Lorraine to Germany in the manner they were, was a mistake. They now propose to make their loss less galling to France and as it were to apologize for annexing these provinces by dividing them between Bavaria, Prussia and Baden. The thief would make the stolen goods safe in the family.

Two instructors, one at Vassar and the other at Yale, and both women have been arrested on charges of disloyalty and will be interned during the war. It looks as though the "highly educated" class is the most disloyal one. College professors, school teachers and librarians furnish more disloyal persons in proportion to numbers than any other classes.

Butte has voted to burn all German books in the school libraries, Saturday night in the center of the city. The trustees of all public libraries are expected to follow this course, and an invitation is extended to all citizens to help swell the German funeral pyre with such German books as they may have.

The shipping board has concluded to make concrete ships as well as steel and wooden ones. This is as it should be. Anything in the way of a ship that will even supply our coast trade is needed and will be welcomed and kept at work.

The Shah of Persia has purchased \$100,000 worth of liberty bonds. His country is the hotbed of German intrigue, but this does not prevent the Shah knowing a good thing when he sees it.

Rippling Rhymes

by Walt Mason

A DISMAL DAY
An ice cold rain is falling, sometimes it's mixed with sleet; the optimist is calling, "This rain will save the wheat!" Then I forget the weather and smile from ear to ear, and crack my heels together, and raise a lusty cheer. If rainstorms, blooming, bleeding, with gusts of sleet and snow, will bring the wheat we're needing, why, let the moisture flow. I never can be doleful, I always must be gay; in gloomy mood and soulful I'd like to spend a day; I wish I might be swabbing from my fat cheeks the tears; but when I start my sobbing the optimist appears. He laughs at my repining, with scornful laugh and loud, and shows the silver lining that features every cloud. The war sometimes seems getting the only goat I own; I yield myself to fretting and put up quite a groan; and while I shed the briny, and trot out doubts and fears, with features bright and shiny the optimist appears. He has a hundred reasons why I should wear a smile; he shows that doubts are treasons, and fears are out of style. So arm in arm we teeter, a reuben and a hick, and swear this life is sweeter than taffy on a stick.

OUR DAILY STORY

"Smil," said Miss Mineola Smith.
"Oh, Smith," repeated Tonga. "Not such an uncommon name, after all, is it?"
"Tec, hee!" tee hee'd Mineola. "I know you were clever as soon as I saw Mrs. Fiddles bringing you over. There's something about a clever man, before he even speaks, don't you know?"
Hammeren Tonga began to find her intensely interesting.
"Do you go to the movies much?" he asked. "I think they're nice places to take a nap in once in a while, don't you, Miss unusual-name Smith?"

It was at Evelyn Piquet's literary evening. They had just been introduced. "Delighted to make your acquaintance, I'm sure," said Hammeren Tonga. "What was the name? I didn't quite catch the name."

The Woman Who Changed

By JANE PHELPS

THE OUTSTRETCHED HAND.

AN EVENING OF SELF-PITY

CHAPTER LXVIII
I went upstairs for something, immediately after I had finished dinner, expecting to return at once and spend the evening cozily in the library with George. I would tell him all about my visit. Of course he hadn't had time to wait to hear, at breakfast; I shouldn't have expected it of a busy business man.

"Helen!" he called from the foot of the stairs. "I'm going out."
I did not answer. I couldn't. The lump in my throat was too big.
He waited a moment, then ran lightly up the stairs and glanced through my door which was partly open. Then he came in.

I turned away for a moment, that he might not see the tears which were filling my eyes. He turned my face around, his hand under my chin.
"I came up to kiss you good-by; but as you choose always to disgrace yourself by shedding tears, I will forego that pleasure."
"I didn't mean to cry, George," I said unsteadily. "I thought you would stay home with me tonight and I would tell you all about my visit."
"I have an engagement at the club," he turned toward the door. "Good night!"

A Scathing Rebuke
"Please don't go away cross!" I pleaded.
"I am not cross. I am simply disgusted. A woman who weeps over every little thing that happens to be contrary to her desires, is an impossible companion for a man. I hate ears! I have told you so many times. Good night!" he stalked out of the room, down the stairs and I, listening, heard the front door close none too gently after him.

I burst into a very passion of tears and sobbed a sudden, wild access of loneliness and longing.
"I ought to have stayed home. He doesn't love me, he can't! He couldn't treat me so, if he did," I moaned aloud.
George hadn't wanted to kiss me—he hadn't cared enough to kiss me, just because I was crying. And HE had made me cry.

One thing, and one thing only, was gradually seeping into my mind; I couldn't go on like this forever. He had no consideration for my loneliness when, night after night, I sat alone in that luxurious house that now seemed less like home than ever. I would gladly have given up the oriental rugs for mother's rag ones—the tapestries and real lace for the dainty dimity curtains at home—all the ease and splendor of our living for the hominess that pervaded the home I had just left.

I was not left long alone. George had been gone but a little time when James announced a Mr. and Mrs. Ross and a Mr. Huntington.
Mr. and Mrs. Ross, were, I knew, close friends of George's before we were married. Of Mr. Huntington I knew nothing. I wanted to refuse to see them, but did not dare. George would be angry. So I went word, that I would be down immediately, and then hurriedly bathed my eyes and smoothed my hair.

A New Acquaintance
Mr. and Mrs. Ross greeted me very cordially, when I went into the room, and then Mrs. Ross introduced Mr. Huntington. Mr. Ross was a lively sort of man and did his best to be entertaining. He paid me all sorts of compliments, some of which, at another time, would have embarrassed me. I accepted them calmly because I was too unhappy to mind. My calm seemed to much intrigue this man of the world. And I thought it caused a look of admiration in his eyes.

Mr. Huntington, too, was very kind. He was young about twenty-five. He tried to find out some of the things in which I was especially interested and talked first of them and then of what especially interested him. He talked better when on the latter subjects.
My wandering glance Mrs. Ross. I saw to my annoyance, I was not living up to Mrs. Ross's teachings. I was projecting my own feelings into the atmosphere when, as hostess, it was my place to make their call pleasant—not theirs to entertain me.

Before they left I had quite recovered my pose. Mr. Huntington said he was going to make up a party, some evening, to dine at a very popular restaurant out in the suburbs, and wanted to know if George and I would go. Of course I had to tell him I would consult my husband. But I was delighted. Perhaps George would go and take me. Before they left we became quite gay. And I had promised to go to a picture.

"Tec hee!" tee hee'd Miss Smith. "You cert'n'y are clever!"
Hammeren Tonga began to find her positively fascinating.
"They're starting to dance," he said. "Dancing has certainly changed from what it used to be."
"Hee!" hee'd Mineola. "You don't let much go by you, do you?"
"Sherlock Holmes is my middle name," said Hammeren Tonga.
"Tec hee. How do you ever think of all those things?" marveled Miss Smith.

He now began to wonder how he had ever got through all those years without her, and after that he danced with her all evening and she told him fifty times that he was as graceful as he was clever, and after that he got her address and telephone number and permission to call, and four months after that they were safely married.

The Itching and Sting of Blazing, Fiery Eczema

Seems Like the Skin Is on Fire. There is a harassing discomfort caused by Eczema that almost becomes a torture. The itching is almost unbearable, and the skin seems on fire with the burning irritation. A cure from local applications of calves and ointments is impossible, because such treatment can only allay the pain temporarily. The disease can only be reached by going deep down to its source. The source of Eczema is in the blood, the disease being caused by an infection which breaks out through the skin. That is why the most satisfactory treatment for all so-called skin diseases is S. S. S., for this remedy so thoroughly cleanses the blood that no impurities can remain. Get a bottle to-day at any drugstore, and you will see results from the right treatment. Write for expert medical advice, which you can get without cost, by addressing Medical Director, 21 Swift Laboratory, Atlanta, Ga.

Portland Young Man Made False Affidavits

Portland, Or., May 2—Russell Haines, son of a Portland lawyer, was sentenced in federal court today to serve a jail sentence of one year and pay a \$10 fine for making false affidavits in his questionnaire. Following his re-exhibition the next day with Mrs. Ross.

They remained until after ten o'clock and I went to bed immediately after they had left. I did not want to talk of my tears, when George came in. (Tomorrow—George Is Pleased That Mrs. Ross Called.)

Court House News

A marriage license was issued yesterday to Cecil Lanier, age 18, a laborer, and Florence E. O'Connor, age 17, a student. He was born in Oregon and she in Wyoming.
A suit to quiet title to ten acres of land in the John M. Prichard donation land claim was filed today in the circuit court by George N. Stoner and wife against Sylvester Prichard and others. The land is in township 9 south, range 1 west.

The sixth annual report of Effie A. Morgan as guardian of Clarence, Ivan and Pearl Osterman, minors, was filed today in the county court. The report shows expenditure of \$96.17, the exact amount of interest received on \$1202.30 for the year. This amount is in the hands of the guardian and she reports that "said minors have been properly clothed, fed, cared for and sent to school and the funds loaned out at a good rate of interest."

The final account of Augusta Brietzke as administrator for the estate of Carl Brietzke was filed today with the county court. It shows receipts of \$944 and expenditures of a like amount. Money expended included the support of the widow for one year.

Charles L. Olcott, an employe of the Spaulding mill, was arrested late last night by Officers Victor and Maris as he was in the act of distributing copies of "Kingdom News," which publication has been placed under the ban by federal authorities. Olcott made no attempt to resist arrest but was inclined to argue with the officers his right to distribute the literature. He furnished \$50 bail for his appearance in the city recorder's court at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

AUTO OWNERS ATTENTION

A FREE LECTURE
ON AUTOMOBILE LUBRICATION will be given Tomorrow, at QUACKENBUSH'S COMPANY at 219 North Commercial Street, beginning at 8:00 o'clock, by L. H. STEINAU.

Mr. Steinau is direct from the factory of the Joseph Dixon's Crucible Company at Jersey City and can tell you how to properly care for and lubricate your car.

This lecture is worth money to all auto owners. Remember the time and place.

QUACKENBUSH AUTO SUPPLIES

219 N. Commercial 8:00 P. M.

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Keith Konquerer Shoes For Men and Women

LADD & BUSH, Bankers

The Third Liberty Bond Sale is now on. We have a Liberty Bond Department in one of our Lobby Stalls. A teller is constantly in charge ready to answer questions and take subscriptions.