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## **The continental times. No. 1207. Vol. XXII. No. 65 December 1, 19115**

Berlin, Germany: C. White & Co., Ltd., December 1, 19115

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GERMANY THE LAND OF FREEDOM. A STUDY OF FACTS.

By Dr. W. D. P. Bliss (Editor of The Encyclopedia of Social Reform).

Where does freedom dwell? Complete freedom, in this world does not exist. But we propose to submit facts to show that there is a greater degree of personal freedom in the German Empire, than at present, in any other country in the world.

For three classes of men, we admit, at once freedom in the United States. For multi-millionaires with their immediate retainers, for criminals and for the lower corrupt politicians, there is, unfortunately large opportunity on the United States. But this represents, thank God, a very small proportion of our citizens.

Our fathers, believed that that was the best government which governed least. With small differences, this was accepted by Hamiltonians and Jeffersonians alike and still more by the ordinary citizens who developed our American methods and forms of every day life.

The Best Government.

The German theory is different. Germans believe that that is the best government, not which governs least, but which governs best. They believe that wise laws, drafted by the people themselves, furnish far more freedom than the lack of law.

What is Liberty? Liberty is the opportunity to be yourself, the opportunity to think your own thoughts, to dream your own dreams venture your own ventures, do your own deeds, to be yourself.

What then are the facts as to this liberty in Germany? We will consider, different classes, and begin with

The German Workingman.

The German worker, by head or hand, has, in the first place, the freedom of opportunity that comes from being the best educated worker in the world.

and 154 times as much in the United States. It is the schoolmaster at least as much as the Uhlans which the Entente Powers are fighting in this war.

"Remember first to possess his books." Germany especially leads in technical schools and in industrial education. There are in Germany, 11 Technical High Schools (Colleges), 429 Commercial Schools, about 100 textile, 15 in mining, 12 in wood working, 12 in the metal industries, 4 in the ceramic industries, 19 in ship-building and engineering, 19 for navigation, besides a large number of artisan and trade-schools.

Germany has compulsory education from the age of 6 to 14 and last year had more than 10,000,000 children in her schools.

Secondly, Germany gives every individual opportunity, if it be possible, to exercise his abilities. Before this war, a high official of the German Empire told the writer that the chief aim of the Heads of the German Imperial Departments, was to secure opportunity for German commerce, work for German industry.

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Organisation.

If the German does find himself out of work, in almost any part of the empire, he can step into a Free Public Employment Bureau and learn of conditions in trade over the empire and be told in what direction, to look for work.

in Germany too carry the man seeking work sometimes for a nominal fee, sometimes for nothing, the strange notion prevailing in Germany that the object of a railway is to serve the public, not to make dividends on watered stock.

A similar result in freeing the individual by securing him steady work comes from the well known German Imperial Industrial Insurance, against sickness, accident and old age.

In the United States, the conditions are similarly alarming, though the United States speciality, in industrial ills, is the killing and maiming of workmen through accidents taken in proportion to population are far in excess of those of any other land.

Again, the German workingman has a freedom of justice, unequalled, perhaps, in any other land and in the United States almost completely unknown.

but rather its symptoms. You will entirely fail to understand the attitude of the typical American of intelligence unless you see that he thinks himself fair and just.

how different is the case! The American laborer has lost all faith in the American court of justice. Even if the judge means to be perfectly fair, the workmen finds himself in the hands of judges and lawyers, drawn almost wholly from one class identified with his employer and therefore by the potent, though perhaps unconscious, training of a life time, accustomed to view every industrial question from the employer's standpoint.

Yet the German workman has his trade union, in which he battles for improved conditions, more successfully than his comrades in any other land.

Where American Socialists or Labor people have occasionally elected a Mayor or the majority of a Council, it often puzzles their friends to show what they have won by it.

GETTING EXPERIENCE. A man looks back on the night he proposed and the night he attended his first big banquet—and wonders how he could have acted that way.

is that German wages in most trades have risen recently more rapidly than those of any other of the great industrial countries. There lies before me, a French Statistique Annuaire. A French source will not be accused of being over friendly to Germany; yet according to this authority, taking the average wage in each country from 1890 to 1900, as 100, English wages rose from 109 in 1900, to 112 in 1912; wages for miners in the United States rose from 104 in 1900, to 128 in 1907; French wages rose from 110 in 1900, to 121 in 1912; while German wages rose from 123 in 1900 to 143 in 1912.

Not Paternalism.

We are well aware what will be said to all this, by the disbelievers in German methods. They will say: "Yes; but all this is paternalism! The workingman has everything done for him by the government, and it weakens his sense of responsibility and independence of character."

POLITICAL.

An American's Apology to Germany.

(By Roland Hugins) (In the Magazine "The Open Court".)

The United States, my German friends, has maintained relations of amity and good-will with your country for a century and more; and it is to be hoped that this historic friendship will continue undiminished through the world war.

There has been a similar growth of antagonistic feeling in America. The bulk of our press took an unfriendly attitude toward you as early as August 1, 1914.

brilliant championship of Dr. Dernburg. But the sinking of the Lusitania by a German submarine caused anti-German feeling to flame out afresh.

To say that this situation is distressing to many of us in America is to put the matter mildly. The mutual misunderstandings will not easily be cleared away.

The Causes.

No, the blindness and intolerance now so conspicuous are not the causes of our bias,

but rather its symptoms. You will entirely fail to understand the attitude of the typical American of intelligence unless you see that he thinks himself fair and just.

Third, that you make war with ruthlessness and brutality, and disregard in the pursuit of your military ends the rules of international law and the dictates of humanity.

Fourth, that your victory would be detrimental to civilization, leading to a militaristic domination which would ultimately threaten the peace of all democratic countries, including the United States.

GETTING EXPERIENCE. A man looks back on the night he proposed and the night he attended his first big banquet—and wonders how he could have acted that way.

(Judge.)

A PERTINENT QUESTION, The Fond Mother—Nice girls never put themselves forward before the men.

The Wise Daughter—Then how do the men find out that they're nice? (Judge.)

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KRUPP FIRM IN WAR TIME.

In its Weekly Report the American Association for Commerce and Trade publishes an interesting article concerning the Krupp firm as follows:

Although the works of Krupp, the world-famous gun maker in Essen, are solely owned and controlled by the Krupp family, the recently issued report on the earnings of the past year would, under ordinary circumstances, be a strictly family affair, but the war has caused Krupp's activity in war time to be of public concern and of importance in regard to economics of war and war politics.

The German people is now very much interested in the activity of Germany's largest private plant for the manufacture of arms, but not only in military-technical regard, but also in respect to the taxpayer's interest who, finally, is to pay for the output of the gun shops.

Therefore, the balance sheet of Krupp, recently published, is attracting wide attention.

To Increase Capital. The Krupp Works are incorporated with a capital of 50 million dollars, shortly to be increased to 60 millions, and the figures of the balance sheet manifest furthermore, apart from attracting attention for above stated reasons, the wise policy on the part of Krupp in providing an equalization of the firm's public function and its business earnings, i. e. its character as a private concern.

Within the last twelve months of war Krupp has, by reason of the requirements of the army and navy, more than trebled his output as compared with the output of the previous year, when exports also figured in the account.

This result shows a tremendous productive power, and the question arises whether it was profitable and to what extent.

The balance sheet indicates net earnings amounting to 28 million dollars, as compared with 13 million dollars of the previous year, showing an increase of more than 100 per cent.

In the earnings there are also the following of less important character: taxes figure with 2.6 million dollars, and expenses for workmen insurance and welfare with 3.9 million dollars, as compared with 2.2 million dollars of the previous year.

They have been reserved for war relief more than 2 million dollars.

In subtracting these additional operating and welfare expenses, the net earnings amount to about 24 million dollars as against 10 million dollars of the previous year, thus showing an increase of 14 million dollars.

In this manner the stability and resources of Krupp have been strengthened: the reserve fund has been increased by 1.8 million dollars, for special purposes of amortization were expended 1.2 million dollars, and 2.5 million dollars have been laid aside for a war emergency fund. Furthermore, 1.2 million dollars were reserved for war relief, 1.2 million dollars for the erection of workers' homes, and 6.7 million dollars each for the caretaking of invalids and for the pension fund.

Even in view of these voluntary expenditures, the earnings amount to almost 12 million dollars, representing a dividend, if such were declared, of 24 per cent as compared with 12 per cent of the past year.

Wise Policy.

It is here where above mentioned wise policy on the part of Krupp is manifested: the Krupp family have voluntary appropriated of the entire earnings of 24 per cent, the excess of 12 per cent, as compared with the previous year, to be expended for the general endeavors of war relief. Thus almost six million dollars will be available for general war relief work and for the establishing of a Krupp foundation in favor of crippled soldiers and the families of those who died in battle.

Considering all these voluntary expenditures, almost two-thirds of the earnings of Krupp are to be spent for public welfare.

Another item of the balance sheet is also of general interest, as the value of supplies on hand—finished and unfinished manufactures—appears with almost 60 million dollars, showing an increase of 19 million dollars as compared with the previous year.

THE REASON.

"I can't understand how old Rake though that the little Angell girl would be congenial as a wife."

"Well, you know, the devil himself is always pictured as hanging around heaven, trying to get in, when he could go back home and have a bully time with his own kind." (Judge.)

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Some Impressions Concerning the French Russian and English Captured.

Never before have I had such opportunities to gather impressions among the French, English and Russian prisoners of war in Germany as during the past week. This opportunity came to me not in my capacity as correspondent, but in that of a soldier of the great German army, whose duty it was to watch about 200 prisoners employed on construction work along the banks of the River Oder. For many hours I have been in conversation with Russians speaking German, and more especially with the French, as these latter were particularly under my command.

These French soldiers are very sentimental and nearly every one of them is chauvinist and an optimist. Speak to them for a moment of a French town they know or name some people they remember and their eyes brighten for the moment, only to take on later a deeper melancholy. They still believe that the Allies will be the winner in the present struggle.

Arrival of Prisoners.

Just as I was writing this article a dispatch was received at our caserne announcing the arrival of 4,000 Russian prisoners. To complete my impressions, I was permitted to see their arrival at the station. At midnight about 200 cars entered, a few at a time, and they were crowded with Russians. All Russian provinces seemed to be represented. Through the dark, rainy night the Russian commands shrilled. All of the prisoners were in a filthy condition, as I suppose they must be of necessity, and many were suffering from the cold as they had no overcoats. They came from Caucasus, Finland and Siberia, but about their experiences I could learn nothing. They gave me only the information that they were hungry and wanted cigarettes. As we passed through the town to the prison camp they fixed their gaze upon the pavement and not one cigarette or cigarette stump escaped their attention. At six o'clock we reached the camp, where every prisoner received a plate of soup and vegetables with bread and they devoured the food like wild beasts. Since then they have been fighting for refuse from the kitchens.

New Comers.

Two days later a group of the new arrivals was working with our detachment on the bank of the Oder, which was the day Lemberg had been taken by the Austrians and Germans and news of this victory was proclaimed by the ringing of bells throughout the city. I noticed two men kneeling in prayer. When they had finished I asked them what had been the burden of their prayers. "We thank God, that we are here," one of them responded.

As to the English prisoners in the Crossen camp, there are but 13 and they are never used for outside work. They associate only with the French. They are clean and in no way objectionable, nevertheless the French say that they are professional soldiers and lack the moral value of the French soldier. It must, however, be admitted that the soldier of many years' practical experience is of more utility than the man of no practical experience. German soldiers who have returned from the front say that the first English troops they encountered were splendid fighters, but Kitchener's recruits had lie's in many ways. (Fritz Arno in Leslie's.)

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

As a result of the huge army orders and the consequent rise in the price of leather boots will be much dearer in England.

Hereafter the French soldier will be clad in a blue-gray uniform, said to be even more "invisible" than a uniform of khaki.

In the absence of the usual sugar supply from Germany the British Board of Trade is trying to foster the beet industry in England.

Railroads of the United States annually consume more than 2,700,000 gallons of water for each mile of line.

Signor Marconi has been inspecting the wireless stations of Italy, and has found them ready for any war emergency.

The erection of two universities, one at Cape Town and the other at Pretoria, is being urged by a Government commission.

California is unusual among the salt-producing States in that the great bulk of her salt comes from sea water, being obtained by solar evaporation on San Francisco Bay, near Long Beach and near San Diego.

SWITZERLAND.

Health Resorts and Hotels.

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