

FAKE ASPIRIN IS DISCOVERED

State Food Commissioner Harman Finds Where Large Quantity Has Been Sold.

Working with government officials, State Food Commissioner Harman and Chief Inspector Kembel have been able to discover the sale of so-called aspirin, a tablet used largely by physicians and druggists for the cure of headaches. Aspirin is made in Germany, but a drug called acetylsalicylic acid made in this country is said to be equally as good. However, the use of the latter remedy has never come into general use because aspirin has been so largely advertised that everybody has insisted on that instead of the American product. So great has been the demand for aspirin that it appears some firm in the east has been manufacturing a counterfeit which has been sold in large quantities to druggists as the real article.

An Omaha company appears to have had the handling of the alleged aspirin in this state and has been the distributor to other druggists.

The alleged aspirin contains one-half grain of acetanilid, which is detrimental to heart action and might be exceedingly dangerous for those with weak hearts to take. The Omaha concern has disposed of over 200,000 of these tablets in the state and the government inspectors are said to know just where to go to locate the druggists who have handled it.

Real aspirin sells for \$8.50 per 1,000 tablets, while the counterfeit brings about \$6.50. The counterfeit can be readily distinguished from the real because it will dissolve in cold water, while the real aspirin is not soluble. It will break in cold water into small parts and then settle in the bottom, but the counterfeit dissolves entirely in a glass of cold water.

All other institutions and departments of state must surrender the crown of size and extent of operation to the state university, for that institution, during the past biennium, has exceeded all others in amount of money collected and used and in number of persons interested and in number of persons employed. Appropriations made and used by the school for the last biennium, according to a complete check just announced by State Accountant DeFrance, totaled \$3,200,000. In addition to this there was a revenue of \$200,000 from outside sources. These sources of income were from sale of hog cholera serum, from ice cream and milk at the state fair dairy and from sources of that nature. Not all of the \$3,200,000 appropriated by the legislature came out of the taxpayers' pockets by means of a levy. Matriculation fees and various other fees and emoluments from the federal government are included, the total approximating \$700,000 for the biennium. Fees of various kinds collected by the medical college heads at Omaha totaled \$5,889.

Adjutant General Phil Hall, who has just returned from Washington, where he investigated President Wilson's proposed increase of the army of the United States by organizing a continental army of 400,000, is convinced the scheme will not give the best results. General Hall believes it would be impossible to organize a citizen soldiery from the ranks of the young men of the country for none of them could afford to give up a position to take on any job which would be for only two or three months and for only 50 cents per day, and, besides, no employer would care to have clerks who would be away from business as long as the requirements call for. The general believes if the government would give the guard a sufficient amount to enable it to drill its members four drills a month, and pay them \$1 per drill that the guard could be made much more efficient and better able for effective service.

Organization of garden clubs by school children of the state is considered by J. R. Duncan, state horticultural board secretary, as useful and highly important to the state at large. In a statement just issued he suggests that parents give serious consideration to the movement.

Permission to organize a national guard company among the employees of the Omaha Street Car Co. has been asked of Adjutant General Hall by Henry L. Strohs of that city. Mr. Strohs says sixty or seventy men can be enlisted from the street car workers.

The Northern Antelope Telephone company of Neligh has asked the railway commission to sanction the issue of \$5,000 more stock to pay off notes. It has issued \$25,000 worth.

Warden Fenton of the state penitentiary is preparing to utilize a small lake just outside the south wall of the prison as a means of fire protection.

According to figures prepared by the State Board of Agriculture, the output of Nebraska farms this year totals up to the nice little sum of \$560,555,450, which ought to be evidence to most anybody that farming in Nebraska is better than gold mining in Alaska.

Secretary of State Pool has just sent to the printer copy for the new roster of veterans of the Mexican, Civil and Spanish-American wars, the list having been prepared by the different county assessors of the state under the provisions of house bill 524, approved April 15, 1915. The law directed the census to be taken the first of April. The list shows that two veterans of the Mexican war, 4,354 of the Civil war and 1,145 of the Spanish-American war. The largest number of veterans reside in Hall county.

Christmas in Europe



NO STOCKINGS HUNG HERE FOR SANTA

By JERLE DAVIS.
THAT a ghastly holiday Christmas will be in Europe this year. Millions of families in mourning, millions of women and children starving, millions of homes in ruins, millions of new graves, millions of dead men that haven't even the shelter of earth, millions of square miles of fertile land laid waste by war, millions of men killing fathers, husbands, brothers, sons and sweethearts.

Belgium, Serbia, northern France and Poland are a Hades of wreckage. In Germany everyone is living on short rations and turning all energies to the pursuit of war. Even the half-grown boys of France are under arms awaiting the call to the trenches. Austria and Italy and England and Russia and Bulgaria are pouring their money into the mill that turns out guns and explosives while the poor exist in the misery of semistarvation, getting their mite of food and fuel and clothing by taking their turn in the "bread line."

All of warring Europe's able-bodied men are soldiers in one capacity or another. In the streets of all the cities and villages of the continent—excepting the little neutral nations—only aged men, veterans of other wars, and maimed men who are recovering from wounds received in this one. Everywhere are hospitals.



SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, FACTORIES, HOMES—EVERY SORT OF HABITABLE PLACE IS FILLED WITH WOUNDED. AND ONE OF THE MOST FLOURISHING ENTERPRISES OVER THERE IS THE SALE OF ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

Even from Asia comes the wall of sorrow, for Mohammedan Turkey is religiously slaughtering its hundreds of thousands of Christian Armenian subjects. News dispatches of the last few days describe the terrible plight of refugees—peniless, ragged, hungry, diseased, noncombatants and exhausted, beaten soldiers—who are sweeping out of desolated Serbia into Greece. We read of women with children in arms spending a month tramping through the snow-covered mountains, hoping in the end to find a little warmth and food and peace. We read of frozen roadways strewn with the bodies of those that stopped on the way for a bit of rest—and never went on.

None of the hundred million of us in the United States can appreciate the horror of it all. Some of our war correspondents over there have seen and heard, but none has suffered and endured as those who are a part of the configuration.

Santa Claus will have a sorry time abroad this year. Fathers and mothers have neither the heart nor the means of commemorating the birth of the Child of Bethlehem and his mission among men. Of necessity they and their children will fast instead of feast—if there is any feasting it will be a feast of prayer and hope.

America has no Christmas skip abroad this year. Why not? some of us may ask. Why not?—with the United States at the height of prosperity and blessed with peace. Perhaps because we realize what a horror the war is. A prominent newspaper man in one of our large cities—a man who had much to do with the success of the project last year—had this to say when the question was brought up:

"A Christmas skip this year—a boatload or two or three boatloads of dolls and jumping-jacks and red apples and candy and cakes and mittens and red-troll boots for the kids of Europe? I shall not dwell on the fact that the warring nations have become much more deadly in their hate and suspicion and probably would refuse safe passage for the cargoes from one country to another. I shall not concern myself with the fact that the nations

embroidered look upon the United States as a greedy animal growing fat and sleek feeding on their life blood, and probably would return our gifts to us with curt "No-thank-yous."

"Instead I shall confess that I am weighed down with the hopelessness of the situation. Here in America we have all we may reasonably ask of Providence—considering our own sins of politics and social injustice. Over there they are cursed beyond the power of words to describe, and the curse will be felt for generations.

"Millions in Europe are dying in the agonies of starvation, cold and disease for want of food, clothing, shelter and medical aid. What a ghastly joke it would be in these circumstances for the richest and luckiest nation to offer those millions of pitiful children a little candy and fruit when they need milk and broth, mittens when they need blankets and clothing, dolls and toy trains when they need doctors and nurses and sanitary supplies. No, this is no time for polite mementoes. Let us concentrate on giving the only real help that would suffice and that would be welcome—peace as soon as possible."

Let us look upon the manner in which Europe celebrated Christmas before the war.

In France and Belgium on Christmas eve the barabaras, or booths, appear in the streets without hindrance, and are all ablaze with candles and glittering treasures, for every household must contain some bright trinket in honor of Noel. The midnight mass is thronged; the magnificent Christmas hymns are chanted everywhere, and then all is gleeful holiday for an hour or so, for it is Christmas morning, the peace-making morning of the world!

There is the hoidun to be eaten, the calen, or Christmas lamp, symbolical of the star that guided the Magi to Bethlehem, to be lighted, the little creche to be exposed, and all happiness, all good-will to everyone to be expressed before retiring with the grand chorale of peace sounding in the ears. In the country the lads and lassies merrily drag home the buche de Noel, corresponding to our Yule log, which is kindled by the head of the family; the hoidun must be eaten and the hot spiced wine sent round, and many a misunderstanding is made clear beside the Christmas



THE NATAL DAY OF THE PRINCE OF PEACE BRINGS TO MILLIONS OF HOMES ONLY THE MEMORY OF DEAR ONES FOREVER GONE AND THE GLOOM OF FADING HOPE.



FIGHTING FOR BREAD IN POLAND



THE ORPHANS' CHRISTMAS BEFORE THE WAR IN FRANCE

fire on this, the day of good will.

In Germany and Austria every housemother and every father makes Christmas the feast for the children, the great day of reunion, the glad time when all meet under the old roof-tree, and social customs prevail over religious observances. The Christmas tree is ubiquitous—everyone has it, rich or poor—and no one omits Weihnacht's Bescherung or Christmas gifts. To provide these, the German people will, if need be, save up half the year. Each member of the household must have something as a surprise, generally serviceable presents that are often needed and always appreciated.

Singularly enough, the Christmas is not celebrated as one would expect in Italy. There the night of the year is less a religious festival than a fair. The world seems absorbed in delirious excitement, and all crowd round Puleinello and divert themselves hilariously till the churches claim them for the midnight mass. But the fun goes on; they laugh gleefully, as only Italians can laugh, enjoy themselves to their hearts' content, but the celebrations are not home celebrations; it is a general, not a domestic, feast.

In Russia and Poland the children put their shoes filled with hay outside the door for the horses of St. Nicholas; and it is believed in most sections that St. Nicholas comes first on a preparatory visit ten days before Christmas to learn which children have been good. He leaves nuts and candy in the shoes of those who have been good, but nothing for those who have been bad, who thus know that they may expect no presents on the real Christmas day.

In Serbia and the other Balkan countries, at dawn on the day before Christmas the sturdy peasant proprietor dispatches his sons to the forest. On reaching the spot where the destined Christmas tree stands, the axebearer offers up a prayer; then he draws on a pair of gloves, takes a handful of corn, flings it against the tree, and says, "Good morning, and a happy Christmas to you." This done, he addresses himself to the task of felling, paying careful attention to other things that all the cuts he makes on one particular side. Once felled, the tree is carried home and leaned against the east side of the house, where it remains till evening. Then the wife lights two candles and places one on either side of the doorway, while the husband goes forth to bring in the "badnyak."

The master of the house now throws three nuts into each of the four corners of the room, saying as he does so: "In the name of the Father; in the name of the Son; in the name of the Holy Ghost—Amen!"

All night everyone remains gloating over the crackling, roasting pig, with an eagerness of anticipation proportionate to the zeal with which they have observed the six weeks' fast enjoined by the Greek orthodox church. By this time Christmas day has dawned, and on Christmas everyone must go to service.

surface formed by dull blades set in a cylinder. This cylinder makes one revolution clockwise, then one in the opposite direction, and this is recorded by a counter as one rub. The other end of the cloth is clamped to a roller, on which is placed the quadrant, from which any number of weights can be suspended, and thus put the cloth in tension. The machine can be driven by an electric motor. When the cloth is worn through it's machine automatically stops.

English Town, It is Claimed, Has Machine That Makes It Possible to Tell Value of Goods.

A machine for testing the wearing quality of cloth has been produced in Bradford, England. It may be found of interest to American firms which manufacture, sell or use textile fabrics. Relative wearing qualities of different pieces of cloth may be determined by placing them in the machine and giving them a uniform number of rubs, perhaps two hundred each. This makes it possible to compare one kind of cloth with its imitation, or to compare cloth samples of the same character from different mills.

A piece of cloth is clamped in a rigid jaw and passes over a rubbing

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