



1—Ambassador Sharp (in civilian clothes) inspecting an American aviation camp "somewhere in France." 2—Trench digger, used for laying water mains, in the national army cantonment camp that is being built at Quantico, Va. 3—Rear Admiral J. H. Glennon, U. S. N., who helped quiet the mutiny of Russian sailors at Sebastopol. 4—Warren Pershing, only child of General Pershing, and Miss May Pershing, sister of the general.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Two Contingents of Pershing's Army Are Landed Safely on French Soil.

UNDER COMMAND OF SIBERT

Developments in Plans to Control Foodstuffs and Coal—Good Work of Root and Kerensky in Russia—British Troops Closing in on Lens.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Two contingents of Major General Pershing's expeditionary force of American regulars were safely landed in France last week, the first on Tuesday and the second on Wednesday. The armada that carried them across the Atlantic and that conveyed them took also great quantities of supplies for their maintenance. The troops now on French soil under the immediate command of Brig. Gen. W. L. Sibert.

This safe and speedy arrival of seasoned fighting men in France is a triumph of American skill and efficiency. Without any publicity, the troops were assembled, embarked on many vessels and taken through the German submarine zone without an accident to mar the success of the great operation. That these troops and the thousands that are to follow them carry all their own supplies makes them a net gain for the allies. The United States feeds, clothes, arms and equips them without making a single demand on the French or the British.

General Pershing has prepared everything for the participation of his army in the actual warfare, and a section of the line near St. Quentin is to be turned over to the Americans. It developed on Thursday that George Creel, civilian head of the committee on public information, authorized the publication of the news of the arrival of the troops contrary to the wishes of the war department, whereupon Secretary Baker withdrew the dissemination of war department news from the jurisdiction of Creel's organization and appointed General McIntyre sole censor and disseminator of war department news.

Coal and Wheat Embargo. President Wilson appointed a board of export control, composed of the secretaries of commerce, state and labor and the food administrator, and the board at once began gathering data on which it recommended that the president place at least partial embargoes on wheat and bunker coal, and possibly on other commodities. The shutting-off of shipments of foodstuffs to certain neutral countries, it is believed, will nearly put an end to their sending of food to the central powers. An embargo on bunker coal not only will help in controlling neutral and other shipping, but also will give to the shipping board a weapon to force down present exorbitant ocean freight rates.

Speaking of coal, the coal committee of the council of national defense scored a big victory Tuesday when it "persuaded" 400 coal barons to agree to sell their product at a reasonable price to be fixed with the approval of the committee. The operators, who represented both the bituminous and the anthracite fields, were told flatly that unless they behaved themselves the government would take over their output.

The immediate result of all this was the agreement of the bituminous operators to make cuts of \$1 to \$3 a ton in the cost of coal to the jobbers. This, it was declared, would bring about an immediate reduction of prices to the consumer.

Consideration of the food-control bill with its "bone-dry" feature, which the house passed, occupied much of the time of the senators. Their committee

modified the prohibition clause in such a way that the making of distilled liquors and beer would be ended while the manufacture of wine would not. The attack on beer brought on a stubborn fight when the bill came up for consideration in the senate Thursday, and Mr. Lodge and others denounced the effort of the prohibitionists to mix prohibition with the food question at a time when the first requisite for successful conduct of the war is a united people. The bill as it stands confers on the president the most extraordinary powers ever granted by the American nation.

Restoring Order in Russia.

With calm, sympathetic talk and commonsense advice, Ellhu Root and his colleagues on the American mission are aiding Kerensky to bring some semblance of order out of the chaos in Russia. In Petrograd, Moscow and many other places the Americans have addressed throngs of soldiers, workmen and peasants, and have made it plain to them that the United States means to help them to retain their new-found freedom, but that it cannot be retained unless, with their active aid, the despotic autocracy of Germany is crushed. Rear Admiral Glennon is credited with having quieted the mutiny of the men of the Russian Black sea fleet.

Minister of War Kerensky is becoming a heroic figure, fiercely withstanding the attacks of his enemies and fast gaining for the provisional government the support of the masses. He is determined that Russia shall resume the offensive against the central powers, and is backed in this by the councils of delegates and by the women of the land. The latter by thousands have enlisted in the army and demand a chance to fight. The congress of Cossacks also gave the provisional government a vote of complete confidence and full support.

Uncle Sam is determined to set the new republic of Russia on its feet if it is possible to do so, and is giving every aid that can be devised. The latest evidence of our government's benign intent is the appointment by President Wilson of a commission of sanitary social, medical and food-distribution experts that will start at once for Petrograd and make a survey of the civil needs of the people of Russia, and then try to help them to help themselves. Dr. Frank Billings, an eminent Chicago physician, heads the commission, the other members including Raymond Robins, Harold H. Swift, Dr. Wilbur E. Post, Dr. W. S. Thayer of Johns Hopkins university, and Prof. Charles Winslow of Yale.

Venezoloz Controls in Greece.

As was foreseen, young King Alexander of Greece has agreed to do whatever the allies wish him to do, and he began by dismissing the Zaimis ministry and inviting Venezoloz to form a new cabinet. The new ministers took office Wednesday. Venezoloz has said that he would like to have Greece join the allies as an active opponent of Germany, but will not force this course of action against the will of the people. Meanwhile, French troops are in control in Athens and other centers. Ex-King Constantine is now in Switzerland, where he has purchased a magnificent chateau.

The situation in the southeast naturally is worrying Bulgaria, which is in the war for what she can get, and now sees that her dear wish to get Macedonia and Dobruja may not be fulfilled. Bulgaria has been reluctant to break formally with the United States, but according to Copenhagen reports she may soon take such action as the price of concessions from Germany.

The Spanish censorship has shut down tight on all news from that country, and the government is struggling to weather the crisis that has come upon it. On Tuesday the constitutional guarantees were suspended once more, and Premier Dato declares the nation is calm. This, however, is not in accord with the information given out in London, where it is expected that a revolution will soon break out in Spain.

Norwegian Patience Exhausted.

In Norway, as in Spain, hunger, present or anticipated, is at the bottom

of much of the unrest. Both nations may be forced into the ranks of the allies by shortage of food, for the countries that are warring against Germany intend to look after their own food needs first, regardless of the walls of the countries that have preferred to remain neutral. Norway also is now exasperated almost to the point of warfare by the deliberate destruction of her merchant marine by the Germans. About one-third of her tonnage already has been sunk by submarines, and a few days ago came the exposure of a German plot to destroy Norwegian steamships by explosives in the form of lumps of coal taken into the country by a courier of the German foreign office. Should Norway join the allies, her coast would be mighty convenient for naval bases for the British and American warships.

Brazil arrived at the definite parting of the ways with Germany and formally revoked its decree of neutrality in the war between the entente allies and the central powers, as it had previously so far as the United States is concerned. Whether it will enter into actual hostilities was not announced. If it does, its navy will be of considerable help.

Europe provided several instances to prove that it is well sometimes to strain the quality of mercy. In Cork and other Irish cities the Sinn Fein rebels, who had been unconditionally pardoned and released, again raised their flag of rebellion and staged riotous demonstrations that were quelled with difficulty by the police and military forces. In numerous districts of Russia the convicts who were set free at the time of the revolution, committed murders and other outrages and seized property, defying such authorities as now exist there. Anarchists who have returned to Russia from exile in other lands are especially vicious and lawless.

British Attack on Lens.

Despite desperate defensive fighting by the Germans, the British last week steadily closed in on the city of Lens, the very important coal-mining center north of Arras. Crown Prince Ruprecht's men before the end of the week had been driven back into the suburbs where they made fortresses of the railway embankment and slag heaps. Lens itself already is a mass of ruins, but its possession means much because of the coal mines.

Most of the French fighting of the week was done in the neighborhood of Hurbise on the Chemin des Dames. Their most brilliant exploit was the capture of the Dragon's cave, an enormous cavern that had been made into a formidable fortress by the Germans. The forward movement of the Italians was checked by the furious gunfire of the Austrians on the Asiago plateau.

Great Red Cross War Fund Raised.

The great campaign to raise \$100,000,000 for the American Red Cross in one week was eminently successful, more than that amount being pledged. The official announcement that all of the immense sum could easily be spent in six months relieving the needs of the allies brings the American people to a realizing sense of the money that will be needed when our own troops are taking an active part in the war. But evidently the people intend to give, and give freely, so long as the demand exists. To contribute from surplus wealth is among the least of patriotic actions; to contribute when one has no surplus, as hundreds of thousands are doing, is among the greatest.

Newspapers and individuals with the broader vision are striving just now to counteract the effects of the hysteria of those who, not realizing that conditions in America are not what they are in France or England, are counseling all kinds of unnecessary economies. Their advice, if followed, would lead to the ruination of many kinds of business and the wiping out of that prosperity upon which America and its allies count to finance the war. In belligerent countries of Europe, of course, nearly all industries and activities are devoted to war needs, but we have not yet reached that stage, though reasonable economy and frugality must be practiced.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR JULY 8

AHAZ, THE FAITHLESS KING.

LESSON TEXT—II Chron. 28:1-5, 20-27.
GOLDEN TEXT—Without faith, it is impossible to please him.—Heb. 11:6.
LESSON TEXT—II Chron. 30:1-13.

Ahaz reigned sixteen years from about 739 to 723 B. C., over the kingdom of Judah, its capital being in Jerusalem. The kingdom was nearing its end, and was destroyed within a few years after the death of Ahaz. His character presents many interesting questions for discussion; the character of his reign, the wealth and prosperity of his father and grandfather, the development of his character from the home wherein he originated, why a nation can be successful and not be righteous or virtuous, that is, outwardly successful, and the application of these questions to our present-day political and commercial lives.

I. Ahaz, the Ruler, (vv. 1-5). The character of Ahaz is not to be admired. He played a prominent and evil part in the history of the Kingdom of Judah. We find his name recorded among the Syrian inscriptions of the year 732 B. C., the Hebrew historian having dropped the prefix "Jeho" from his name. The full name indicates that he had "grasped Jehovah," yet he was untrue to his name. The historian says "he did not that which was right in the sight of the Lord." This puts it mildly, but indeed few of the kings of Judah did otherwise, and he patterned his conduct not after the good model of his father, but the thoroughly bad conduct of the kings of the northern nation, Israel. He was but twenty years of age when he took the throne, but had already entered upon a course of action opposed to that of his father.

II. Ahaz Ruined. The choice lay before him of following in the steps of his grandfather Uzziah and his father Jotham (II Chron. 1:10). He chose to defy God, openly disobeyed him and was disloyal to his God and his country, walking in the ways of the kings of Israel, (v. 2), burnt his children in the fire, after the abominations of the heathen, (v. 3), made molten images of Baal, (v. 2), and spread that worship into the high places on the hills and under every green tree (v. 4), made sacrilegious use of the temple's treasury, and was dishonest as well as profane. He trusted Baalim more than he trusted God.

III. Ahaz Rebuked. God did not allow him to pursue his course of action without protest. When the children of good men go wrong, there is no measuring the extent of depravity to which they will sink. Nevertheless, God was opposed and tried to save the young man and the nation. God used the king of Syria as one agency for rebuking this mad young man. He carried away great multitudes captive, one hundred and twenty thousand in one day (v. 6), and "two hundred thousand women, sons and daughters" (v. 8) at another date. Ahaz himself was filled with terror at the great calamity that overtook him. (Isa. 7:2.) While he received temporary help (II Kings 16:9, 10), he received ultimately ruin from the king of Assyria, for he became a vassal and was summoned to Damascus to pay homage to that king, as appears from the account II Kings 16:7-9, and also from the Assyrian inscription, above referred to. Other enemies also attacked him—Edomites from the southeast carried away captives, and the Philistines from the southwest invaded the cities of the low plains, south of Judah, and took possession of them (vv. 17-19) and the army of the Assyrian, which Ahaz led to rob and profane the temple and its treasures in order to buy them off (v. 22-24), completed the ruin of his nation. Ahaz was forced to pay a heavy tribute to the Assyrian king (v. 21), and got no help for his outlay. He put his trust in an arm of flesh instead of in the mighty arm of God, which brought upon him the curse that always comes to those who trust in man (Jer. 17:5, 6). There is a blessing which always awaits those who trust in Jehovah (Jer. 17:7, 8). The wise man turns to God not in the time of his distress but at all times. Instead of sacrificing to the God who saved his father and who would save him, Ahaz sacrificed to the god "which smote him." His defiance knew no bounds (v. 24). He seemed to have dabbled in every known form of false worship, thereby "provoking to anger the Lord God of his fathers" (II Kings 23:11, 12). God is long-suffering to those who wander from him, but there comes an end to his patience (II Peter 3:9, 10).

IV. The Reverse Picture. There are several problems to be solved as we view this picture, for it is a story of real life, not only of the early times but is being repeated even today and in this country. (1) Men will reap that which they sow. One cannot sow wild oats and reap the fruits of righteousness. (2) Jehovah places righteousness above security or prosperity. (3) God's purposes are for the uplift and the making of the nation and the individual better. God never does evil that good may come out of it. A loving father must exercise discipline, and let us not be mistaken.

Self-Evident.
"Please, lady," begged the very dirty tramp at the back door, "can you help a poor man that lost his job three weeks ago and ain't been able to find no work since?"
"What sort of a job was it?" asked the lady.
"I was workin' in a soap factory."
"Well, it's plain to be seen that you were not discharged for dishonesty."

Real Sporting Blood.
The kind-hearted woman stopped to reprove the youngster who had chased a cat up a tree.
"You bad boy! Suppose you were a cat, would you like to have anyone chase you in that fashion?"
"Gee, wouldn't I, though, if I could climb like that!" said the youngster, grinning.

The Proper One.
"I am going to put a patch on fortune."
"Then make it a potato patch."

Not by strength but by perseverance are great works accomplished.

FRECKLES

New Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.
There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as prescription ointment—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots. Simply get an ounce of ointment—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning, and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is so simple that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.
Be sure to ask for the double strength ointment, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles—Adv.

His Clutch Slipped.
Harold, age four, was trudging with father to Sunday school, and the long tramp was almost too much for him. The father, glancing back, noticed the small boy's fatigue and, slackening his pace, asked:
"Am I walking too fast, son?"
"No," returned the small boy, puffing and panting breathlessly, "it's my papa."—Christian Herald.

A lean woman and a fat one nearly always envy each other.

Save the Babies

INFANT MORTALITY is something frightful. We can hardly realize that of all the children born in civilized countries, twenty-two per cent., or nearly one-quarter, die before they reach one year; thirty-seven per cent., or more than one-third, before they are five, and one-half before they are fifteen!

We do not hesitate to say that a timely use of Castoria would save many of these precious lives. Neither do we hesitate to say that many of these infantile deaths are occasioned by the use of narcotic preparations. Drops, tinctures and soothing syrups sold for children's complaints contain more or less opium or morphine. They are, in considerable quantities, deadly poisons. In any quantity, they stupefy, retard circulation and lead to congestions, sickness, death. There can be no danger in the use of Castoria if it bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher as it contains no opiates or narcotics of any kind.

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The Government this year is asking farmers to put increased acreage into grain. There is a great demand for farm labor to replace the many young men who have volunteered for service. The climate is beautiful and agreeable, railway facilities excellent, good schools and churches convenient. Write for literature as to reduced railway rates to Supt. of Immigration, Ottawa, Can., or to

W. V. BENNETT
Room 4, Bee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.
Canadian Government Agent

What Did He Mean?
Until three o'clock this afternoon Warden Hanley of the Tombs prison was a perfectly contented warden, says a New York correspondent. He had been told twice during the morning that a man with a frock coat and a silk hat had called to see him, and as the man was to return at three o'clock, Mr. Hanley cut short his tour of the prison and returned to his office. He found that the caller had called, fumed and finally left this note: "Thirty years ago my father, who was of medium height and undoubtedly punctual, was employed as a heat denunciator in a metal mill in Pittsburgh. For years, or at least for a considerable time, he told no one. However, it was common rumor. Now, after all these years, does it seem that a man would deliberately take any such action? What would be his motive? I ask you as a humanitarian to discuss this with no one. Merely use it for your own information and proceed likewise. I leave for Pittsburgh at four o'clock, but trust you implicitly.—A Friend." At a late hour Warden Hanley, having read the note through 92 times, was reading it through for the ninety-third time.

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Room at the Top.
Little Jennie had been eating very heartily, but she asked for another piece of cake.
"Jennie," said her mother, "I don't believe I ought to give it to you. You're about as full as a little girl can possibly be. Another mouthful, and you'll surely burst!"
"But, mamma, my neck's left yet!" said the little girl, persuasively.

This season, as usual, the noblest thing in shoes is a bunton.

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