THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING — SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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THE BEE'S SERVICE FLAG

Over the top, but keep it up.

Three more nurses have been added to the kaiser's record of warfare against women.

No disloyalty-breeding teachers in our schools and no war-profiteering miscreants in our school boards.

It is very plain that the promised railway wage increase is not to include railway presidents.

It would be a relief if Hindenburg would only be considerate enough to announce his death officially.

Brewers and bottlers should be quick to arbitrate. Omaha can get on nicely without labor troubles.

On way to help make a cleaner Omaha is to stop using the streets as a dumping place for litter and refuse.

Consternation did not hit the railroads till the presidents were deposed. But Uncle Sam is giving the show now.

"It is a sorry day for the kaiser!" said the veterans from Belgium, when they saw how Omaha is preparing meats for the allied armies to eat.

If there is another city on the map that has as earnest, energetic, indefatigable, self-sacrificing a crew boosting its Red Cross drive as has Omaha, it will have to show us.

The World-Herald's present eagerness to preserve the soldiers' vote is matched only by its recent eagerness to preserve the vote for six months' resident alien enemies in Nebraska.

Mr. McAdoo can save more than the salaries of several railway presidents by the simple expedient of consolidating Omaha's two passenger stations, and at that serve the traveling public much better with only one of them.

Senator Hitchcock's hyphenated organ insists that the senator is "exceptionally qualified by his training" for the chairmanship to which he has been advanced by the rule of seniority. What training? "Educated in the schools of Baden Baden, Germany," says the official biography.

Start One Reform Here.

While the reform spirit is on in Omaha let us call the attention of our new police commissioner to the professional beggars who are capitalizing their physical defects on our busiest thoroughfares. This is not only in violation of the city ordinance, but there is no real charity in tolerating this sort of thing. Other up-to-date cities do not do it. There is a way to take care of helpless, blind or crippled people who are deserving, but it is notorious that most of those who expose themselves on the streets are impostors and undeserving. Let the Associated Charities check up on these unfortunates and if found worthy they can easily be properly provided for. But, worthy or unworthy, put them off the street corners.

"ITALY'S DAY."

This is Italy's day, to celebrate the third anniversary of that nation's entry into the war. It should be observed, as our president has suggested, with such emphasis as will leave no mistake in the minds of Italians anywhere as to the sincerity of our friendship. The gallantry of the Italian troops in the long struggle forward and the desperate stand they made against the onsweep of the Hunnish hordes last winter form a part of the annals of the war that cannot be overstated. Whatever the cause of the disaster that overwhelmed Cadorna's army, the trouble has been removed and a united Italian nation now confronts its enemy. Misunderstandings have been cleared up, purposes made plain and Italians are now in the field to win again victory for freedom. The spirit of Garibaldi lives once more, and sons and grandsons of his soldiers are making good the defense of their country. None of our associates in this war has faced greater economic difficulties than have the Italians, nor have any shown more steadfast purpose than marks the armies now facing the foe along the Piave. Recognition of this fact by Americans will help to a better understanding on both sides, and assurance from us of appreciation of what they are doing will greatly offset German efforts to further poison the Italian mind. This is the purpose of Italy day, and it is worthy.

Belgium's Military Mission.

Omaha's streets have been the scene of many military parades and spectacles, but never did one of greater import go by than that which passed in the rain yesterday afternoon. Veterans of Belgium and France, escorted by United States soldiers and High school cadets, marched in the rain along the city's thoroughfares and received cheers of thousands. And what does this all mean to them? Is it not more than just a holiday jaunt? Does it not mean more than the applause of the crowds and the unfeigned admiration of all they meet? Surely it does, to them and to America as well. These men have seen a great nation putting its every power and energy into its war purposes. They have had more than a vision of its strength and its enthusiasm. They have had a close-up view of its resources and the most convincing proof of its systematic and efficient preparation, and when they get home their words will be listened to much more attentively than will any of the reports made by visiting statesmen. These men are of the people and will talk to their comrades on even terms. They will be able to tell what the people of America are doing, taking account of all they have seen in camp and field, in factory and workshop, and their message will be one of cheer and good courage. For this reason, above all others, the visit of the Belgians is important.

"Walking Dead Men."

Russian prisoners of war, described as "walking dead men," are being sent home from Germany under the terms of the Brest-Litovsk treaty. It is worthy of note, and quite characteristic of the Hun, that the Germans insist they are to liberate only those who cannot work, while the Russians must provide in exchange able-bodied Germans. Thus the kaiser foists onto the conquered and submissive bolsheviki the maimed, the diseased and the disabled, forcing their care on a land unable to care for itself, while Germany receives and retains all who may be used for military purposes. Detained Russian prisoners may not be employed in the battle line, but their enforced labor in field and factory, on roads and elsewhere, will release Germans to do the fighting, and thus will the pretended treaty of peace be distorted into an enforced alliance to aid the Central powers in their battle to place the rest of the world in the same predicament as Russia. The more the effect of nonresistance is studied, the more luminous becomes its folly.

German War on Base Hospitals.

"If the British build their hospitals near the railroads, they must expect to get them bombed," according to a German airplane captain, who was captured comparatively unharmed while conducting a raid, in the course of which many wounded men, doctors and nurses were killed. The attack had been made with utmost deliberation, coolly and carefully carried out, and terrible destruction visited on the helpless and their merciful attendants. It is the kaiser's way of retaliating for expeditions that destroy naval bases, such as those at Zeebrugge and Ostend, for the daring sally of the Italians against Pola, and similar efforts of the allies. No foe suits the German raider so well as one who cannot defend himself; therefore, sleeping, undefended cities, base hospitals and the like are picked out to be assailed from the air. In this way the emissaries of kultur are seeking to carry out the instruction given by the kaiser himself to his troops in China, that they conduct themselves like the Huns of old. Instead of terrifying the nations of the earth, as he sought to frighten the Chinese, his policy has added to the detestation and horror of the world for kaiserism and its train of abominations. Responsibility for the crimes against civilization and decency has been fixed and reparation will be exacted. No man or nation may hope to indulge in such an orgy of frightfulness and escape forever its penalty.

Kaiser's War Plot Confessed

Herr Thyssen, German Steel Magnate, Reveals the Crime

New York Financial World.

Herr August Thyssen, one of Germany's leading steel makers, a man of vast wealth, who is personally known to many of the prominent steel makers of America and has been in the past an honored guest of the American Iron and Steel institute, has confessed in a pamphlet which has just recently been smuggled across the German border that he, with other big business men, were persuaded by the kaiser himself and his chancellor, at many meetings held between 1912 and 1914, to ally themselves with the military party and co-operate in a vast scheme of world conquest which the kaiser and his advisers had determined on as necessary to preserve and strengthen the Hohenzollern dynasty. The pamphlet has been translated into English and will be circulated in the United States. It confirms and establishes the truth of the accusation made by the German ambassador to London that the Hohenzollerns planned, directed and persisted in finding an excuse to make war on every country that opposed the kaiser's ambitions.

The pamphlet is too long to quote in its entirety, as it contains more than 4,000 words, but extracts from it constitute a damning indictment of the German war party.

Thyssen owned iron and steel works, harbors, docks, huge mines in British India, other British possessions as well as in France and Russia, but they have been commandeered by enemy governments and his business in Germany has been ruined. He is described as the captain general of German industry and a sort of composite of the late J. P. Morgan and Charles M. Schwab. He tells how the world conquest scheme was broached to him and many other representatives of finance and industry between 1912 and 1914, the kaiser himself and his chancellor being the spokesmen at these meetings.

The kaiser spoke with the greatest eloquence and enthusiasm, promising great financial rewards to his hearers if they would support him in the war as it had been planned. Thyssen himself was explicitly promised 30,000 acres of land in Australia and a loan of money to develop it as his share of the spoils. He says:

"Every trade and interest was appealed to. Huge indemnities were, of course, to be levied on the conquered nations, and the fortunate German manufacturers were, by this means, practically to be relieved of taxation for years after the war. The emperor's speech was one of the most flowery orations I have ever listened to, and so profuse were the promises he made that were even half of what he promised to be fulfilled most of the commercial men of Germany would become rich beyond the dreams of avarice. Let me frankly confess that I am one of those who were led to agree to support the Hohenzollern war plan. I was led to do so, however, against my better judgment. The Hohenzollerns saw that the war had become necessary to the preservation of the military system, on which their power depends. The Hohenzollerns might have directed the foreign affairs of our country so that peace would have been assured in Europe for at least 50 years, but prolonged peace would have resulted in the break up of the military system and the power of the Hohenzollerns would come to an end. The emperor and his family clearly understood, and in 1912 decided to embark on a great war of conquest.

"But to do this they had to get the commercial community to support them in their aims. They did this by holding out hopes of great personal gain. In the light of events that have taken place since August, 1914, these promises now appear supremely ridiculous, but most of us at the time were led to believe that they would probably be realized. I was personally promised a free grant of 30,000 acres in Australia and a loan from the Deutsche bank of £150,000 at 3 per cent to enable me to develop my business in Australia. Several other firms were promised special trading facilities in India, which was to be conquered by Germany by the end of 1915. A syndicate was formed for the exploitation of Canada. This syndicate consisted of the heads of 12 great firms; the working capital was fixed at £20,000,000, half of which was to be found by the German government. These promises were not vaguely given. The conquest of England was to be made the occasion of bestowing upon certain favored and wealthy men some of the most desirable residences in England. Every trade and interest was appealed to. I have mentioned the promise of a grant of 30,000 acres in Australia to me. Promises of a similar kind were made to at least 80 other persons at special interviews with the chancellor, and all particulars of these promises were entered in a book in the trades department. These promises were made definitely by Bethmann-Hollweg on behalf of the emperor to gatherings of business men, and, in many cases, to individuals. They were confirmed by the emperor, who, on three occasions, addressed large private gatherings of business men in Berlin, Munich and Cassel in 1912 and 1913. I was at one of these gatherings. The emperor said:

"'We shall not merely occupy India. We shall conquer it, and the vast revenues that the British allow to be taken by India princes will, after our conquest, flow in a golden stream into the fatherland. In all the richest lands of the earth the German flag will fly over every other flag. I am making you no promises that cannot be redeemed; he who refuses to help is a traitor to the fatherland; he who helps willingly and generously will have his rich reward.'

"According to the promises of the Hohenzollerns, victory was to have been achieved in December, 1915, and the promises made to myself and other commercial men were to have been redeemed. But this is what happened in reality. In December of 1916 the chancellor, Bethmann-Hollweg, began to have interviews once more with business men. Guarantees were asked from 75 business men, including myself, that they would undertake to subscribe £200,000,000 to the next war loan. I was personally asked to guarantee a subscription of £200,000. I declined to give this guarantee; so did many others. I was then favored with a private interview with Bethmann-Hollweg's private secretary, who told me that if I declined to give the guaranty, and subsequently the money, I would lose on a contract I had with the war office. I was threatened with the practical ruin of my business if I did not give the guaranty. I described this demand as blackmail of the worst sort and refused to guarantee a mark to the war loan. Two months later I lost my contract and the greater part of my business has been taken over at a figure that means confiscation. Moreover, I am not to get paid until after the war, but am to receive 4 per cent of the purchase price. Every man who declined to promise a subscription to the amount asked has been treated in the same manner. The majority, however, preferred to pay rather than be ruined, and so the Hohenzollerns in the main got their way."

Another German Lie

Of all the lies circulated by the German government, the meanest and most malicious is that unleashed by wireless to the effect that "from papers found on American aviators who were shot down it has been proved that for their own safety many of them crossed over on hospital ships certified as members of the American ambulance service in France."

Here is an imputation of craven cowardice which it is scarcely conceivable that even Germany would ask the world to believe. The British admiralty disposes of it in few words by saying that "no hospital ship, British or American, has ever carried anybody but invalids and the necessary medical staff. Further, there are no hospital ships working on the cross-channel route."

Probably the flimsy basis for this fabrication of the German government is the fact that a few American aviators were in the allied ambulance service in France before the United States became a belligerent. But it is explained that even these men crossed the Atlantic on ordinary ships and took their chances of being torpedoed. They did not hide behind the Red Cross flag.

The most charitable construction which can be placed upon this latest lie from official German sources is that that government, having itself indulged in such extremes of atrocity as the murder of women and children, the shelling of unfortified towns and the sinking of unarmed ships, cannot conceive of a higher degree of honor and is ready to impute to its enemies the same base motives that guide its action. Germany has sunk to the abyss of dishonor; could it be expected to comprehend honor?—Washington Post.

An Error of Four Billions

In these days of lavish war expenditures by each of the nations involved, we look upon a billion dollars with none of the awe with which the country many years ago contemplated the fact that congress had in two years appropriated that enormous sum, an awe which did not altogether disappear even after Speaker Reed reminded us that this was a billion-dollar country. But still, when we break a billion dollars into parts that are within our comprehension, we realize that it is a vast sum and we can scarcely imagine any one making an error of $4,000,000,000 in an appropriation bill. But that is approximately the error accounts have discovered in the army bill prepared under supervision of the house committee on military affairs. The figures now stand at $11,771,666,847.86, instead of at over $15,000,000,000, as had been previously reported. Even Secretary Baker and Chief of Staff March had accepted the larger estimate as correct. But accountants checked over the items in the army bill and those in the fortification bill and found duplications to the amount of approximately $4,000,000,000. It was further ascertained that the appropriation for fortifications could not be expended within the legal time limit, so there will be another reduction. This will probably bring the aggregate of appropriations for this session down from $31,000,000,000 as previously estimated, to about $25,000,000,000.

The error affords a signal illustration of the necessity of a budget system, which Mr. Sherley, chairman of the house committee on appropriations, and Mr. McCormick, one of the representatives at large from Illinois, have been urging, with indifferent success. But the house cannot very well ignore such a situation as this error makes apparent.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

People and Events

It's all off with that projected tour of Billy Sunday to the fighting front. Passport regulations forbid permits to those having relatives in the army, and Billy has a son over there.

Jimmy Hart, 86 years old, a Brooklyn Methuselah, has just married Kitty Wolf, 18. Wouldn't that beat ye? Perhaps. But, remember, great grandpas enjoy having the kiddies pull their whiskers.

Cheyenne, St. Joe and Chicago have achieved dubious reputations as wet towns eager to break the drouth. But their wetness rank as small affairs. The champion wet town of the world is called Cherapunji, India, where the average rainfall averages a foot a week. Local web feet show no desire to vote it into the dry belt.

One of the ambulance chasers of Utica, N. Y., thought he saw a chance to soak the street railway company because an inspector kicked off the car a young tough who rudely jostled women and children at the entrance, in order to be one of the first to a seat. A favorable decision in the lower court has just been reversed by the highest court of the state and the company sustained in its rule of "women and children first." The ambulance chaser is left with a large bill of repairs to settle.

The Bee's Letter Box

Try This on Your Typewriter.

Omaha, May 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: Now is the time for all good Americans to go to the aid of their country, and instead of trying to make money out of the war, do all in their power to make money for the war.

BERT PLATTE.

Keep Your Eyes on Bohemia.

Omaha, May 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: Hardly a day passes but what reports of some kind flash through our daily press, and not once is it a report of such nature as to give comfort to the Teutons, unless it is the reports bringing sad news of Bohemian boys shedding their blood on the western battlefield, where they hold their own on the side of the allies, in the midst of the thickest fighting. God bless their brave souls.

There is something wonderful about this little nation. Dragged into the war on the side of the Huns, they watched their chance and deserted the ranks of their oppressors in such numbers that now, together with volunteers from the United States, they form and constitute an independent army of such vast numbers, composed of men of such recognized ability and training that the allies seriously count on it on the western front. And there are over 50,000 of them left in Russia who are eager and anxious to be transferred to the western front just as fast and just as soon as the means of transportation can be arranged. The last reports have it that they are already on their way over the Siberian railroad, to cross the Pacific. If it is true, then within a short time trainloads of them will begin passing through the United States on their way to France. Their leader, who in his 70 years has undergone the same trip, arrived just two weeks ago, and is in Washington paving the way now.

Keep your eyes on Bohemia and its plucky inhabitants. If there is anything that causes the kaiser to worry it is the internal troubles, and the long-oppressed Bohemians will give it to him good and plenty, although they will pay for it dear both in blood and worldy possessions. However, they are bringing the sacrifice willingly, for it is the war for freedom—freedom which they lost in the battle of White Mountain over 300 years ago, and for which they have been struggling ever since. In the victory of the allies Bohemia sees its own victory and freedom, and, therefore, the allies may fully depend on them, for their victories will be mutual. Bohemians are not alien enemies; they are allies, and should be held as such.

SIMPLICIMUS.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

"Mechanics must get mixed sometimes on natural history."

"What makes you think that?"

"I heard some talking the other day about the horsepower of a donkey engine."—Baltimore American.

"That young woman who just passed is one of the politest girls in town."

"Out with it."

"At the funeral at her home the other day she asked the undertaker to call again."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Little Freddy had just been put in a khaki suit with long trousers.

"Mamma," he asked, "am I a man now like papa?"

"I suppose so," she replied.

"Well, then," he continued, "I guess I'll take a dime out of my bank and go down to the barber shop and get shaved."—Boston Transcript.

Dolly—At last I have met my ideal! Kind-hearted, modest, patient, self-denying. But, alas, married!

Daisy—Don't worry. No woman will live long with such a freak. You'll get a chance at him.—St. Louis Times.

This Corn Will Peel Right Off!

"Gets-It" Makes Corns Come Off The "Banana-Peel" Way!

Why have to flop on the floor, squeeze yourself up like the letter "Z," and with bulging eyes draw your face up into a wrinkly knot while you gouge and pull at the "quick" of a tender corn? That's the

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old, savage way. "Gets-It" is the modern painless, simple way. Lean over and put two drops of "Gets-It" on the corn, put your stocking and shoe right on again, and forget the corn. Pain is eased.

"Gets-It" has revolutionized the treatment of corns. It never irritates the true flesh. You'll stop limping on the side of your shoe, and do away with greasy salves, bundling bandages, thick plasters and painful methods. Use "Gets-It," it's common sense.

"Gets-It," the guaranteed, money-back corn-remover, the only sure way, costs but a trifle at any drug store. M'f'd by F. Lawrence & Co., Chicago, Ill.

Sold in Omaha and recommended as the world's best corn remedy by Sherman & McConnel Drug Co.'s stores.—Adv.

HEALTH

Dimness of Vision Quickly Corrected

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"Over There and Here"

A number of bibles printed in German formed a part of a waste paper cleanup recently pulled off at Portland, Ore.

War woe appears in a new quarter. A diminished supply of wire for the manufacture of hairpins is said to have left only enough to last three months in England.

Cardinal Bourne of England, answering slacker insinuations, states that in the London diocese, out of less than 300 priests, 52 are serving as chaplains at the front.

French food regulations now forbid the sale of fish, preserved meat, poultry, rabbits and game on Wednesdays, Thursday and Fridays. Horse flesh is one of the few meaty exceptions.

One of the precious bibles stolen from a Moscow church during the revolution was a volume studded with diamonds and other jewels, and valued at $1,000,000. The bolsheviki know a good thing and show standard Hun speed in reaching for it.

One of the correspondents on the spot reports that American troops at the front "return the enemy's fire two to one and give him back a double dose of whatever he sends over." That's our style. Americans in Europe are notorious spenders.

Brigadier General George Carey has been promoted to the vacancy in the British command created by the recall of General Gough. Carey is the boy who gathered together a scratch force of engineers, clerks, Chinese navvies and stragglers and helped stem the German tide after the rout of Gough.

A war profiteer, boasting of his rake-off in the Treasury department at Washington, drew down the wrath of an indignant woman clerk. A few whacks of an umbrella knocked off his lid and mussed his coiffure. The woman has three sons on the fighting front and had ample reason for assailing a mercenary filching coin out of American life blood.

An Englishman recently out of Austria reports that almost everything in the way of supplies can be had for money, but quite a roll of depreciated currency is needed to effect a trade. For example, butter may be had at 15 kronen a pound, boots cost from 200 to 300 kronen a pair, a suit of clothes 800 kronen and an overcoat 1,000 kronen. In peace times a kronen equaled 20 cents in American money.

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Taken from the corner of 13th Street and Capitol Avenue at 8:00 p. m., Friday, May 17, by a young man, short, stout, dark complexion, wearing a pink cap and green necktie.

1917 Model with 1917 License Number 125733; Engine No. 2030639.

Please send any information to John G. Phillips, 2536—62d St., Omaha. Phone Benson 175-J.

TODAY

One Year Ago Today in the War.

General Pershing conferred with President Wilson at the White House.

Italians drove back Austrian lines on 15-mile front facing Trieste.

Rear Admiral Sims, commanding American naval forces in European waters, was made a vice admiral.

The Day We Celebrate.

J. L. Adams, sales manager for the Lininger Implement company, born 1881.

A. B. Somers, practicing physician, born 1847.

George Grey Barnard, American sculptor, born at Bellefonte, Pa., 55 years ago.

Edward Octavius Sisson, president of the University of Montana, born in England, 49 years ago.

Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, playwright, born in London, 63 years ago.

This Day in History.

1793—Stephen Girard, founder of Girard college, born in France. Died in Philadelphia, December 26, 1831.

1862—General Alexander Macomb became general-in-chief of the United States army.

1861—Federals made their first advance into Virginia, three regiments crossing at Georgetown, four at Washington and one at Alexandria.

1898—Battleship Oregon completed her memorable trip around Cape Horn.

Just 30 Years Ago Today

Phil Kearney Post No. 2, Grand Army of the Republic, held a meeting at its hold at Fort Omaha and four members were admitted to the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic.

G. Pantaloni, manager of the Westinghouse Electric Light company of Pittsburgh, Pa., is in the city and

is endeavoring to perfect arrangements for putting in an electric light plant at a cost of half a million dollars.

Assistant City Engineer Lawrence has prepared the plans for the proposed Q street viaduct.

Thomas Trumble of Moline, Ill., who is the proprietor of a large boiler and iron plant at that place, is in the city looking for a location.

Twenty-two bright little boys, sons of old soldiers, met at the Grand Army hall, 1316 Douglas street, to be drilled for the purpose of acting as "guardhonor" to the Liberty car on Memorial day.

Round About the State

Rains of the fore-week hit the right spot at the right time.

Fremont Tribune notes with some surprise the small percentage of Omaha soldiers who took the trouble to vote for municipal candidates, and ascribes it to the magnitude of the tasks on hand. "When the boys come marching home from war," comments the Tribune, "they will be the whole thing in politics."

Beatrice and Fremont are facing raises in gas, electric light and water. In Fremont the gas company slapped on a 25-cent raise without talking it over with the city. The raise makes the net rate, including discount, $1.75 per 1,000 cubic feet. Like speed has not been attempted at Beatrice, the question of boosting the three necessaries—water, gas and electric light—being in the debate stage, with an investigation promised.

Considerable applause in editorial columns welcomes the Omaha announcement of raiding the haunts of the idle and making loafers work or get out. "This is right," exclaims the York Democrat. "Not long ago we saw several fine looking young men being taken to the army. In front of a pool hall stood a lot of fellows, not one of whom semed to have anything to do. They should either go to work or to the army." In like tone the Beatrice Express commends the drive on loaferdom, and stamps idleness as treason to the country. "It's either make your own way now or move over with the Hohenzollerns."

Whittled to a Poin'

Washington Post: Complaints of a hemp shortage in the west so long before harvest time must sound a bit ominous to the treason whisperers.

Minneapolis Tribune: Germany boasts of having destroyed, or made unserviceable, 73 cathedrals and churches. A proof of "Gott mit Uns," probably.

New York Herald: When a man insists upon trying to drive horse sense into the halls of congress, where else could he expect to land than in a detention ward "for mental observation?"

Brooklyn Eagle: Washington has one real puzzle now, whether Wilson or Bryan is the less pleased by the naming of Hitchcock of Nebraska as head of the senate's foreign affairs committee.

Louisville Courier-Journal: Mr. McAdoo says the man who wears a pair of trousers with a new seat budded into the old material is a patriot. Maybe, but we need men who are not afraid to march to the front to show their patriotism rather than men who must sit tight to hide theirs.

New York World: Berlin is a willing liar, but neither a cheerful nor a skillful one. Danger makes her desperate. The official story of the German government that "grave cases of insubordination occur daily in American training camps" and "were punished by death, but this was stopped owing to the number of cases," is an example of lies that not only neutrals but Germans may check up at their leisure.

Twice Told Tales

Sure Enough Talker.

A woman went into a pet store one day with the announcement that she wished to buy a parrot, and was shown several promising specimens by the proprietor.

"I like the looks of this one," said the prospective customer, designating a certain bird, "but are you quite sure that he is a talker?"

"Oh, yes, madam," was the prompt assurance of the proprietor, "he is a talker, all right."

"Some of them are very disappointing," continued the customer. "Will you guarantee him to talk a lot?"

"I surely will," answered the proprietor. "The lady who last owned him sold him because she couldn't get a word in edgewise."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Then Trouble Began.

An esteemed party named Pat established a livery stable in a rural New England town, and wishing an appropriate sign, he had one painted that pictured a man riding a mule. Just after the sign was put up Pat's friend, Mike, rambled along.

"Oi see," pleasantly remarked Mike, gazing at the new creation, "thot yez have put up a foine soign."

"Yes," responded Pat, with some how of pride. "Phat do yez think av it?"

"Shure, an' Oi loike it," replied Mike, with an expansive smile, "but who is the men thot's on yez back?"—Chicago Post.