

needed merchant marine fleet so esdays the vision of what such a fleet missionaire looked on with superciwould have meant to us in war we never would have had to make this great sacrifice of treasure and time, the girl's lips-the look of blank for we would in large part have pos- dismay that crossed her face, and sessed the ships ready for peace or war time needs.

1919:

Disregarded Peace Time Value.

But neither the sacrifice of money nor the time of men could have resulted in the creation of so vast a fleet, in so short a time had we not been willing to atterly disregard one prime factor in the manufacture of ships-to wit: the peace-time value of the ships we created.

By this I mean that our whole effort was directed-and for war purposes, properly-to the creation of

the maximum tonnage in the shortest me-anything that could carry men

and goods, regardless of cost of con-struction and operation. This, while exactly right for war's pressing necessities, left us at the conclusion of our building program with a vast tonnage unfitted in large measure for peace time needs; because for peace needs tonnage must be measured by two factors-economy of operation and fitness for varying trades and purposes.

Fleet Sadly Balanced.

Our war built fleet could obvious ly take neither factor into consideration, in fact, to get the maximum tonnage we created the fabricated ship, which meant practically all ships of a type. This, while resulting ered masses of hair with open adin the production of ships as if by magic, had the grave disadvantage of creating the most sadly balanced mechanically. merchant fleet the world ever knew.

That the reader may better under-stand "balance," let me liken ships to railroad equipment, with which all window. are familiar. A railroad, to operate successfully, must have flat cars, must have inclosed freight cars to take regular freight, and larger cars hung with purple velvet. to carry automobiles and the like. It must have special cars to carry coal, baby and still other cars fitted for express purposes. It must have refrigerator cars capable of taking care of varying types of commodities. It must have, for passenger traffic, day coaches and parlor cars, Pullman sleepers and dining cars, passenger equipment fitted the lower priced tourist trade and passenger equipment of a higher type for the Twentieth Century express. Without all these types of cars in proper proportion no railroad could

be properly managed. Equipment Must Be Complete.

The same sense of balance and equipment must obviously exist in a merchant fleet. To compare the ships which the goverment owns to railroad equipment, we might say that the 1,430 steel ships under the shipping board consist largely of that type comparable to the regulation freight car, with practically none of the especial equipment needed, such as railroads have for furniture carriage, automobile carriage, express peace time needs. ervice and refrigerator service.

Again, to liken our ships to freight of the cars, too many are of wrong sizes for practical technical operation. We are still sadly deficient in passenger ships, which we can liken to Pull-ing.

series tomorr

"We have not long to wait now," he said. "O!" said the girl. She took the

"No-" she looked away from sentially needed for the winning of battered shape from his hand and him, watching the passing traffic. the war. Had we had in pre-war tried to straighten it out-the com- A blind man led by a ninche A blind man, led by a pinched, white-faced lad passed up and down the line, soliciting alms; a lious superiority. The tall man saw the droop of woman with a guitar and a shrill,

impulsively he thrust a hand into his pocket.

"Please allow me to pay for my stupidity; it was all my fault-if I had not put my foot on it I am sure with some one else would have stopped it quite safely-please allow me to-" she interrupted him with a gesture, her. A the color flaming into her checks. thin "I am not a beggar," she said. child For a moment they looked into

on the curb, selling violets. She looked ill and miserable; she each other's eyes-the man as red now as she, for he had never met coughed from time to time hollowwith such a rebuff in the whole of ly. The child sucked a thumb, and his life. His eyes flashed angrily. The girl laughed-a little coneyed the crowd with grave blue eyes-the girl with the fair hair

temptuous laugh, then she turned looked at him wistfully. and walked away, carrying the bat-He was about 3 years old-a sturdy little fellow-and scrupulously tered hat in her hand, the wind blowing through the loose waves of her

clean in spite of his ragged clothes. Beneath the torn brim of an absurd The tall man stook looking after hat, his brown curls peeped saucily. The girl fumbled for her purse. "She is worse off than I am," she her with an odd expression of chagrin on his face; once he made thought, as she took out one of the few pennies. "Worse off-except that a movement as if he would have followed; then he shrugged his shoulders, gave the commissionaire she has the boy.'

half a crown, and went on through She stepped out of the shelter into the wide door of the restaurant. the rain and gave the woman a The girl walked on down the street penny; the young man, who had held the umbrella over her, followed alwith hot cheeks. People stared at her curiously; two most bashfully and gave the woman overdressed women looked at her twopence. He blushed as the girl in and sneered. A man eyed her uncov-"Jolly little boy with her," he said

awkwardly. "Yes." The girl sighed as she spoke. He noticed how wishfully miration; but she was unconscious of her surroundings-she walked almost Presently she came to a large pic-

she looked at the child. ture shop; several people were gaz-The rain had stopped. He closed ing interestedly at the goods in the the umbrella and glanced at his watch-it was guite a cheap watch,

The girl stopped next to a young and he wore it on a strap. ouple, who arm-in-arm, were talk-"We shall soon be going in now," he said cheerfully. ing in whispers about a gilt-framed

The main door of the theater was close to the gallery entrance. Car-It was the picture of a child; a riages were driving up, private mo-tor cars carrying beautifully dressed boy sitting on the grassy brow of a cliff in the sunshine, his women, and men with diamonds in blue eves turned skywards, chubby hands stretched upwards, and under

their shirt fronts. The girl watched them enviously. neath the picture were written two She wondered how she would look "Where did you come from, baby were she dressed in a silken cloak, dear? Out of the nowhere-into here." with white satin shoes, and pearls in her hair, like a slim_girl who had just stepped out on the red carpet The girl with the fair hair looked picture that stood alone on an casel strip that led across the pavement.

She looked, and lost herself in dreaming. man cars, parlor cars and day coach A sudden shout aroused her; she

es. These passenger ships, as will later develop, are the very foundaturned her head sharply as a shrill cream rang out through the windy tion of a merchant marine for war night, and the sharp grinding noise and peace time needs. of a car brought to a sudden stand-It was because we were willing to Several persons ran from their still. sacrifice balance to quantity producplaces in the line. Others, more callous, looked on without moving. "Oh, what is it-what is it?" asked tion, which was essential for the immediate needs of the world war, that we find ourselves with this utterly the girl fearfully. unbalanced fleet, the disposition of

The young man answered her. "I don't quite know-somebody which is one of the great problems confronting the American people. run over. I am afraid. I think it In the next article we will cover was that green motor car, and the diversion of the war built fleet to oh, it was the violet woman with the little boy." He darted forward to the crowd that had already gathered. The girl followed him

Read The Bee at the way heart beating fast, her eyes wide in her pale face

lighted a torch. At this moment, the receiving operator was all attention. When he saw the distant torch go out, he immediately opened thes pigot at the bottom of the pot, allowing the water to run out. The unlovely voice was singing a popuman at the sending station did the lar ballad. She wore a large hat same. As the water ran out of the with huge feathers that waved and pots, the floats and the "message jerked grotesquely above her head in the rough wind, like the plumes sticks" were carried downward When the division that represented of a funeral horse. She sang on the message that was to be transmitted reached a position in line mechanical expressionlesswith the top of the pot, the distant sender again exposed his torch and ness, her dull eyes staring before white-faced girl wrapped in a the receiver responded by closing the spigot. He then read the message shawl, with a solemn-eyed from the stick. clinging to her skirts, stood

Then the distant sender

water.

History does not tell us how many disasters befell Greek armies through a leaky spigot.

that was used to a great advantage in France during the revolution.

PURE VINEGARS



Domestics

Imported Ginghams

Yard 59c

Figured Voiles

32-inch checks and plaids.

The middy is made with white collar, cuffs and pocket flaps, and with white patent leather belt; the double seamed pocketed knickers are made with elastic waist and buttoned cuff at knee. Values at \$3.95. Burgess-Nash-Downstairs Store A Timely Sale of **200 Voile Dresses**

RED ARROW BOOTH **Baby Dresses: Creepers** . Each 49c A "Red Arrow Booth" offering of exceptional merit. Imagine baby dresses and creepers priced at less than half a dollar! The dresses are made of dainty white materials and are lace and embroidery trimmed; the creepers are made of linene, gingham and chambray, in a good assortment of Sizes 6 months to 2 years. No C. O. D.'s. No Mail Orders. No Refunds. No Deliveries. so-Nash-Red Arrow Basth D Men: Buy Your Straw Hat Now!

Silk Poplin

Yard, 89c

36-inch silk warp poplin in

plain and Jacquard patterns of

White

and Sport Shades

that is desirable for dresses,

blouses, skirts and sports suits.

Burgess-Nash-Downstairs Store

Men's Needs

Men's Work Shirts

Blue chambray shirts, cut full

Men's Khaki Pants

dark stripes. Made \$198

Bargess-Nash-Downstairs Store

Wash Suits

Each, \$1.00

They are made of percales in

combination style. Some are

plain colors in white or blue,

others are striped patterns and are only \$1.00. Sizes 2

Also "Koolcloth" in light and

and roomy, 3 to a

customer, each

cuff style, pair

splendid wearing quality

Brown

69¢

Black

through. You will find it interest-