

BRITISH COMPLACENCY.

Officer in the Trenches Gives it Something of a Jar.

The following remarkable letter has come to the London Chronicle from the front, presumably written by an officer in a Lancashire regiment.

"Sir: I cannot help but start with abuse, although you are one of those in touch with the vast anti-conscriptivist mass of British opinion," as your leader puts it. Damn British opinion, sir; damn the vain, self-complacent English smugness and English arrogance. To your 'vast mass' the idea of defeat is quite inconceivable, for are they not the boys of the bulldog breed, the descendants of thousands of heroes, 'men in a free country who just won't be slaves,' the liberators of Belgium and so on ad nauseum?

"So colossal is the British arrogance that our brains and imagination are swamped. We still seem to think that the Germans have made war to gratify us, so that we may show them what fine fellows we really are.

"Probably you, too, have never entertained the idea that we are losing the war. Yet the bald truth remains that the Germans are winning on points; and we go on talking, talking about the 'big push' to be delivered next spring, according to the Times military correspondent. (Please observe that we have given up the idea this year—we are still wearing down the 'baby-killing hilt'.)

"If you could see trenches hammered to hell by hundreds of guns, hours of smoke, dust, blood and noise, and then, go across to take the same battered lines, only to be met by a hail of bullets, to return leaving your friends and men lying dead outside, it might make you realize what an enormous advantage lies with the defense. The French have battered for five weeks—I have heard it day and night—not gain two miles.

"The bubble of breaking through has burst, but we are deaf to hear the 'pop'.

"You answer with the German advance in Russia, and then go into the financial problem. Of course Germany cannot last, of course she will be starved in a few months, of course she has no cotton, no cotton, but she has some brains and method, and uses both.

"And we muddle along in our well-worn grooves, our party politics, our newspaper dictatorship, our racing, our brides in their baths.

"I have been ten months in France fighting for that—the thought almost makes me vomit. Don't talk about the 'glorious traditions of our race.' Only fools fight for traditions; the wise man fights for realities and the future. This long-winded preamble leads me onto your crowning folly—your fear and hatred of conscription. I will be quite frank. Had conscription passed, twelve months since I should have left England. Now, if they don't have it, I shall leave the country—rats have the foresight to leave certain ships. Circumstances alter cases, but I fear that they will never give the Englishman sufficient insight to see what a fool he really can be.

"And you, in touch with your vast mass, won't have national service in the nation's cause because 'all that is characteristically English dies if English freedom perishes.'

"Those are worn-out myths. None of us are free, and you know it. Smith was not free to drown his brides. We are all slaves of the community, and some think of the country in which we live. Will you leave your dear old principles for a moment and look at things from another point of view?

"In a national crisis it must be taken for granted (I assume that the nation is virile), that every man and woman is willing to serve the country. In other words, every man and woman is a volunteer.

"If you deny this hypothesis, you damn the country and your vast mass of British opinions. Probably your principles will not be shocked by this statement. Well, then, every man and woman is willing to serve. To take full advantage of this willingness, it must be organized—in a word, conscription—that awful bogie word, which gives some little Liberals and some Conservatives and some little Socialists bad dreams.

"I know that I am not writing to a child, but conscription does not mean that every one is a soldier—it means that George, who is an engineer, engineers for the state; Tom, who is a skilled workman, works for the state; and Harry and Bill, who are fit to fight, fight and perhaps die for the state.

"The state calls her children and allots to them their task.

"What monstrous, wicked, bloody oppressions!

"And you must go on unblushingly with your old 'voluntary' muddle. George, the engineer, may join the R. A. M. C.; Tom, the skilled workman, may fight and Harry and Bill become politicians and newspaper editors, for all the country seems to care.

"Of course, one volunteer is equal to four pressed men. Our copybooks say

so, therefore, it must be true. "Anyhow," said an English soldier, "I hope I never meet a—German volunteer." "When you think of the Germans, their wonderful courage and fortitude and unanimity, doesn't it make you blush for your own country?"

"Throw away your principles, men, throw away the limber of the past and look things in the face. Don't blather about God upholding the cause of the just and the bulldog pluck pulling us through—I am tired of pulp and music hall sentiments. Realize that the Germans are a better and a more virile race than we are and try to teach your vast mass of British opinion to surpass them at their own game.

"I am an Englishman and the chances are that I shall never see another year, but our national sentimentality, our conceit, our petty squabbling, our politics, our lack of methods have made of me one of the most ardent pro-Germans in Europe."

"I cannot say why I have treated you to this round of abuse—you are no worse than others, if anything a trifle better than that loathsome Northcliffe crowd with their party political jobbery.

"But, you sir, are blinded by principles—which is nearly as bad. Bound hand and foot by past traditions and the utterances of statesmen now happily dead, but unfortunately not forgotten. Cannot the Daily Chronicle think for itself, or must it still be bound by the opinions of say, Gladstone. Really, even such a demigod as he can get out of date.

"Could you but realize how nauseating it is to read any London daily, 'the mouthpieces of the nation' (in block letters, please), with their squabbles, their meanness and their follies.

"You are better—that is why I take the trouble to write this, but good God! you're bad enough.

"I am abusive, but when moved superficial politeness it jettisoned, and, candidly, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to drive these things into your head with a mallet—the distance, however, is too great. Even the Germans and their deadly earnestness cannot convince you.

"This letter is not intended for any publicity, though it would be amusing to see some of your public reading it; nor is it intended to draw forth any reply. The labor in writing it would not be grudged if I knew that you had read it and thought for five minutes on what I have said.

"We have such a colossal task before us that poor mortals like me are appalled, but the Olympians at home still go unmoved about their godlike business. It is they who need help, not we.

"In conclusion I shall quote Mr. Walter Long (Morning Post, July 16): 'It would not have met the situation to have simply pressed more men into the service unless we could put in their hands the rifles and ammunition without which they would be useless to take part in the war.' There you have the fallacy in a nutshell. Surely Long must know that national service does not cram every man into the ranks when we cannot equip them (our voluntary system did that from August to December). If there is national service they are called up when required.

"You know that, and he wants it, yet your damnable politics befoul your mouths.

"The Liberals are bound by principles, the Socialists by the word freedom; the Conservatives have no principles and no traditions since 1906—it there was an ounce of ability in their broken camp they might break fresh ground, but the soil is barren.

"I am asking my friend to transmit this letter to you, as it would be lost in the ordinary channels. My thoughts and their mode of expression may be crude, sir, but they have the virtue of being honest and outspoken. I am, sir, yours very truly,

"Lancashire."

NEGRO ESCAPES MOB.

Finds Safety in Jail at Spartanburg.

Spartanburg, Aug. 16.—Fat Ward, a negro who bears the reputation of being a desperate character, was brought to the Spartanburg jail early this morning, having been spirited away from Greer to escape a mob which gathered outside the lockup Sunday night, bent, it is said, on taking vengeance for an attack on the town officers made about 9 o'clock when they were attempting to arrest him. According to report the negro had been causing more or less trouble throughout the day. When the officers surrounded him, it is said that he fired five shots, none of which took effect. A bullet passed through his shoulder at the same time. The crowd collected after it was learned that the negro was being attended by Dr. W. T. Brockman, who, with the assistance of Officer Charles Littlefield, sped toward Spartanburg with the negro in an automobile before the crowd knew of their intention. Ward is alleged to have a criminal record at Greenville county.

SUMTER'S COTTON MARKET.

To Be Featured on Get Together Booster Trip on August 26th—Local Buyers are Urged to Take Interest, "Mix in" and Talk Cotton Market.

The Sumter cotton market will be featured on the get together between city and country buy at home trip on August 26th, provided the local cotton buyers can be interested in the advertising campaign. In the sections to be visited there are many hundreds of bales of cotton that naturally should come to Sumter that have been going to other markets because the competitive markets are as near to the Rafting Creek township cotton fields as Sumter is.

The Chamber of Commerce and Retail Dealers' Association, however, think that the Sumter cotton buyers should go along and have a heart to heart talk with the cotton producers. Sumter is the most important interior cotton market in Eastern Carolina and handles more cotton annually than any cotton market east of Columbia. And Sumter ought to get more cotton than it does.

This cotton market is susceptible of much greater development, by judicious advertising and cooperation between the Sumter cotton buyers, merchants, bankers, and the cotton producers. The Sumter cotton buyers should each and every one take sufficient interest in the trade and get together trips to go along and tell the cotton growers what they can and will do for the cotton farmers this fall, and show that Sumter pays the highest market price for cotton.

The local buyers should personally interview the cotton farmers and find out what, if anything, should be done to make Sumter the logical market for all Rafting Creek and Stateburg township cotton. Questions of local freight rates, highway conditions, and other matters of accommodation and convenience to the cotton farmers should be investigated fully before the 1915-1916 cotton selling season opens up.

If the Sumter cotton buyers are sufficiently interested to go with the boosters on August 26th, ample time and opportunity will be given for the buyers and the cotton growers to discuss from the rostrum, and personally such matters as may be necessary to bring about a correct adjustment of any difficulties now confronting the buyers and cotton sellers, if any there be, imaginary or real.

Cotton buyers are business men, and very important business men of every cotton market. And they are usually and for the most part among the most progressive, public spirited, and hustling community builders, and desirable citizens in every respect.

Therefore the Sumter cotton buyers should mix in with the other boosters, and do as much advertising and boosting as the other business men on the get together booster trips.

The average business man, not experienced in cotton buying, does not know what to say about a local cotton market. The trained cotton buyer does know how to talk cotton and therefore the cotton buyers are logically the men to go along and help to build up Sumter's cotton receipts.

Every business man in Sumter is interested in getting all the cotton possible sold on the Sumter market. Increase in cotton receipts means more trade and more cash deposits in Sumter banks.

Boosting the Sumter tobacco market got more tobacco, and going after more cotton will get more cotton for the Sumter cotton market.

TEMPERANCE RALLY HELD.

Interesting Joint Meeting of Societies at Home Branch.

Paxville, Aug. 17.—A joint meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance union and mission societies of the town and community was held at Home Branch church on Wednesday. The programme observed on this occasion was the one planned by the Woman's Christian Temperance union of South Carolina and carried out by the members of these organizations, treating largely upon the prohibition referendum.

Addresses of high character were delivered by Dr. Clinkscales, Charlton Durant and Mrs. Joseph Sprott. A silver medal contest, in which ten speakers entered, was held in the afternoon. Miss Lucile Geddings was the winner of this medal.

A sumptuous dinner was served in the large church grove. On account of the threatening weather the attendance was not as large as expected.

Mullins' New Postoffice.

Work on the new postoffice is progressing nicely. Almost the whole of the interior has been torn out and will be remodeled and put in first class condition. Walter McKay is in charge of the work and will push it as rapidly as possible. Indications are that when completed Mullins will have a postoffice strictly in keeping with the progressive spirit of the town.—Mullins Enterprise.

MAKING EXPLOSIVES OF COTTON

Amount of Cotton Consumed Not Known—Treatment Necessary.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The European war has created an insatiable demand for ammunition. New establishments are being erected for the manufacture of explosives, and the possibility of increased profits is inducing firms engaged in other industries to enter this field. This state of affairs, of course, has an important effect on the price of cotton, which is largely used as a material in the manufacture of explosives.

Director Rogers, of the bureau of census, is carrying on an extensive correspondence in his endeavor to obtain statistics of all establishments using cotton as a material. Consumers of cotton naturally desire to know the total quantity used in all lines of industry, and they can aid in the compilation of accurate statistics by furnishing the census bureau at Washington with the names and addresses of establishments which have begun the use of cotton as a raw material since the commencement of the European war. Mr. Rogers says that a great many letters are being received requesting information as to the quantity of cotton and linters used in the manufacture of explosives. Some express the fear that the bureau is not aware of the extent to which these materials are now being used for this purpose. The director desires to state that the census bureau is aware of the greatly increased demand for cotton and linters, and has been endeavoring to collect complete statistics concerning the total quantity used by all consumers of cotton, in compliance with the law which requires monthly reports on this subject.

Unfortunately it is impossible to supply statistics as to the amount of cotton used in the manufacture of explosives alone. The act of congress authorizing the collection of cotton statistics directs the census bureau "to collect and publish statistics concerning . . . the quantity of raw cotton consumed in manufacturing establishments of every character . . ."

While some manufacturers of explosives purchase the raw cotton and subject it to the necessary processes of purification in their own establishments, many of them buy it from other establishments which purify and treat the fiber so as to render it suitable for use in the manufacture of explosives. Many of these establishments prepare cotton not only for manufacturers of explosives but also for manufacturers of wholly different products, and it is not feasible for the census bureau to obtain separate statistics of the amount of purified cotton turned out by such establishments for use in the manufacture of explosives.

There has been a great increase in recent years in the production of linters and hull fiber. Linters are obtained at the oil mills by reginning the cottonseed, the object being to remove the short fibers so that the fine particles of the kernel will not be carried off with the hulls, making possible a greater yield of oil and meal. The total quantity of linters obtained from the crop of 1899 was 114,544 bales of 500 pounds each; but fifteen years later the output of this by-product of the cottonseed-oil industry had increased by more than 600 per cent, the number of bales turned out from the crop of 1914 being 856,906.

Hull fiber is obtained by a treatment of the hulls which breaks up their structure and makes available the short fibers which have not been removed in the delinting process. Several establishments have been engaged in the production of hull fiber for a number of years, and additional ones are taking up this line of manufacture.

The publication of statistics of cotton production and consumption has called public attention to the desirability of similar data concerning numerous other and totally different commodities. The census bureau is receiving numerous requests for such data concerning various articles the production of which has been stimulated by the European war or by economic conditions due in a measure to the war.

There seems to be a general impression that the census bureau is engaged in the collection of such statistics. Director Rogers wishes to emphasize the fact that the work of his bureau is defined and limited by law. He appreciates the importance of statistics concerning the annual production of clothing and food products, of chemicals, of metal and wood products, etc., but congress has not authorized the collection of such statistics, and until it does so his bureau cannot undertake the work.

Cardinal Vanutelli Dead.

Rome, Aug. 19.—Cardinal Vanutelli, a member of the sacred college, died today, aged 81 years.

Washington, Aug. 19.—The Red Cross has wired its agents at New Orleans to give needed relief to the Texas storm sufferers.

USE LEGUMES TO BUILD SOIL.

Let These Gatherers of Nitrogen Share the Farm this Winter With Oats and Wheat.

Clemson College, Aug. 18.—For three years the demonstration forces of Clemson College and the United States department of agriculture have put soil-building in the very front of the things they have been teaching South Carolina farmers, for the reason that they believed that the most serious limiting factor in Southern agriculture is the lack of humus, or decayed vegetable matter, in the soil. Giant strides in soil-building have been taken by the State during these three years, but there are many farms which have not yet felt the invigorating influence of good soil-building methods and this work will be continued energetically until the State has been completely won to soil-building.

Many experiments have proved that the quickest and most economical way to build up worn-out soils is by using the winter legumes, such as burr and crimson clover and vetch. The use of the clovers and vetches as winter cover crops was accordingly made the principal point of attack by the demonstration forces and the results since 1909, when South Carolina had only 587 acres in clovers of all kinds, are commonly known.

Last fall, owing to the advisability of growing money crops during winter and to the difficulty of obtaining winter legume seed, Clemson College used its principal efforts to have farmers seed their land to wheat and oats, and the results have justified this. But there was necessarily not so big an acreage in winter legumes last year as there would have been had the war not begun when it did.

This year, moreover, Clemson College is again urging farmers to sow wheat and oats and again it is likely that there will be less interest in clovers than there would have been had this been a year of normal conditions.

Nevertheless, Clemson College urges farmers to remember that a farmer's first need is good land and that in South Carolina much of the land cannot be called good land, because it is lacking in humus. While a farmer is planning to sow his oats and wheat this fall, he should prepare also to plant burr or crimson clover. The clovers will gather nitrogen from the air for him, as no other crops but the legumes can do, and if he turns them under in spring, they will give him not only a new, free supply of nitrogen, but a large quantity of humus as well.

Any farmer who is trying to reduce his fertilizer bills should by all means grow the clovers this winter. By supplying nitrogen and a large mass of humus, which unlocks some of the plant food in all soil, a continued use of the clovers can save at least one-half of a man's fertilizer bill. The arguments in favor of sowing winter legumes are many. Let these gatherers of nitrogen share your farm this winter with oats and wheat.

FRANK'S DYING REQUEST.

Member of Mob Secretly Delivers Note to Newspaper Man.

Atlanta, Aug. 19.—Leo Frank's dying request was that his wedding ring be given to his wife. The ring was enclosed in a note delivered to O. B. Keller, an Atlanta Georgian reporter at his home in Marietta, last night by an unknown man. The note stated that Frank's last request was that the ring be given to his wife and asked Keller to see that this was done. The note also warned him not to try to learn the identity of the man who delivered the note and to destroy the message as soon as read. The mob's mandate will be complied with.

FRANK'S FUNERAL TONIGHT.

It Will be Private and Place Not Announced.

New York, Aug. 19.—The body of Leo M. Frank arrived here at six o'clock this morning. A small crowd was present and no demonstration occurred. Private funeral services will be held tonight at some place, which the family refused to reveal.

CARRANZA BLOCKS PEACE.

He Refuses to Agree to Plans Advocated by Conference.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Gens. Villa and Zapata have accepted the peace plans advocated by Secretary Lansing and the South American diplomats. Gen. Carranza has refused through confidential channels. The official refusal is expected hourly. It is believed that the first chief will couch his note in such terms that will lead to further negotiations which will give him time to gain military victories that will make his recognition the only course left.

Big Steamer Missing.

New Orleans, Aug. 19.—The steamer Marowibne, eighty crew and passengers aboard from Latin-America is still unheard from, four days overdue.

NO STOPS IN FILLING SILO.

Important to Have Men and Teams Enough to Keep Machinery Constantly at Work.

Clemson College, Aug. 18.—Silofilling time is at hand in many parts of the State and, for the benefit of those who are having their first experience with silos and silage and for those who are not quite certain that they have been doing the work properly in the past, Clemson College is issuing a few simple directions which, carefully observed, will enable one to fill a silo economically and properly.

Corn should be harvested for silage when the ear is dented and the shuck begins to turn brown, or shortly before the corn is fully ripe.

The most important point in filling a silo is to make certain in advance that there will be enough men and teams for cutting, hauling, feeding, distributing and other operations to keep the silo-filling machinery at work all the time. It is when a man permits his engine to stop every few hours and has to start it again at much trouble that silo-filling becomes irksome and expensive, and the only way to avoid this is to determine in advance the number of men and teams it will require for the work and to keep the machinery in motion constantly.

Hauling the corn to the silo is another important item. A farmer who has his silage corn field far from his silo will realize the mistake of this when he begins to haul. Silage corn should always be planted as near as possible to the barn. A big labor-saver in hauling is the low-down wagon. The work is done much more easily when the men do not have to lift the corn to a great height to load it into a high-bodied wagon. Low-bodied wagons may be bought cheaply or may be made easily. Directions for making them are given in Farmers' Bulletin 578, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

In filling a silo with an ordinary blower, there is a tendency for all larger pieces of ear to fall in one place, while the stalks and leaves will be blown a little farther over. It is best, for this reason, to have a distributor attached to the blower, but, if none is had, a man should be in the silo with a fork to distribute the grain well over the surface. Men should also be in the silo to pack the silage around the walls instead of letting it accumulate in the center. These men should tramp and pack the silage thoroughly.

When the silo has been filled, the top layer of silage should be made thoroughly wet so as to form an airtight covering and prevent the spoiling of the silage for a greater depth than eight inches or a foot. There will be a slight loss in the top layer of silage unless it is used immediately. One need not wait a day after filling the silo before beginning to use the silage.

GOOD CROPS AT EGYPT.

Egypt, Aug. 17.—We are having a very fine rain this afternoon. The crops look well, especially late corn. Watermelons, fruits and cantaloupes are about all gone. Vegetables are also scarce, due mostly to the dry weather last month. Some of our farmers are pulling fodder, while others haven't begun. Cotton is opening rapidly where it was planted early.

Mr. W. T. McLeod's sawmill was burned last Thursday morning. It caught shortly after daybreak and from the place it caught, it seems that it must have been set. There was no insurance.

Miss Lola Hogue of Camden, Miss Annie Turner of Camden, Miss Cora Raines of Abbeville, and Miss Pearl Brown, of Smithville are visitors in Egypt this week.

Several of the young folks from here attended some of the services at Beulah last week.

Mr. Olin White and sister, Miss Sadie, spent a few days last week at the home of Mr. C. N. Humphries near Camden.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. White were in Camden Saturday.

Mrs. J. W. Weldon and Mrs. L. A. James have gone to Bishopville today.

Mr. J. K. Richbourg spent yesterday in Camden.

Dr. E. M. Carson returned last Thursday from Baltimore, where he had gone on a business trip.

Mrs. Lottie McLeod and little son, William, are spending a few days in Egypt.

Mr. W. T. McLeod went to Bishopville yesterday.

CAPT. PAUL WHIPPLE DEAD.

Florence, Aug. 18.—Capt. Paul Whipple, one of the best known and wealthiest farmers and citizens of Darlington county, died at his home at "Stoney Hill" plantation, near Mechanicsville, Darlington county, early yesterday morning at the age of 75.

The remains were carried to his old home at New Boston, New Hampshire, on yesterday, and were accompanied by Mr. G. Kirk King, an old friend, of Darlington.