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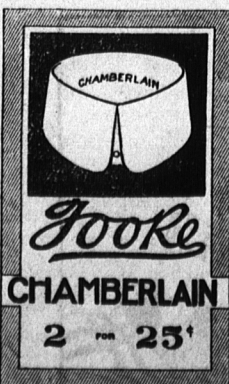
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CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM

It has not been infrequently stated by thoughtful people, that Germany's present position is better than at the outbreak of the war, that the war has not yet reached her soil, that her enormous military supplies both in men and materials, have not been seriously depleted, that her food supplies still hold out wonderfully well, and that the great mass of her people is still in favor of the war and confidently expect victory.

It is true that the Allies are yet a long way from the boundaries of Germany. Not only that, but German armies overrun all but a few square miles of Belgium, all of Luxemburg, part of North-Eastern France, all of Galicia, all of Poland, and are crowding through to Riga on the North and pounding through Serbia toward the Dardanelles in the South. That is the most that can be said for Germany as to territorial gains. How about her territorial losses? All of her large and valuable colonies, outlying dominions and dependencies are gone. They are unquestionably and irretrievably in the hands of the Allies. What about the success of the invasions of her enormous armies in Europe? In the most essential features and at the most important strategic points she has consistently failed. Did Germany reach Paris or Calais? Has she been able to launch her hordes against England from Calais? She was enormously prepared, equipped beyond our wildest dreams, but she was merely a vast intricate but powerful machine with conquest and destruction as her one aim. She was checked before Paris, and headed back from her drive toward Calais. And now, all along the Western front she is slowly but surely letting go her hold before the irresistible pounding of the Allies. We too, are completing an enormous war machine, every bit the equal of that of Germany. But, in addition, we have behind it the spirit of defence, protection, and justice, a powerful and lasting force in itself. On the Eastern front Russia has for some time turned the tables and is now forcing Germany back through Galicia and retaking towns and country recently taken from her by Germany. Only in the North-West around Riga is Germany causing any serious trouble to Russia and even there it seems to be slowly turning in favor of Russia. The country, climate, and all natural elements are strongly favorable to Russia and even more unfavorable to Germany. She tried tremendously hard to capture a large part of the Russian army but they always just escaped. Now she finds herself in a very bad fix, far from supplies and reinforcements and in danger of being broken and captured by the Russian forces. In the South-West, Italy is having splendid success all along the line, continually pushing back the Austrians and daily taking more territory. In fact, the only weak spot in the whole war is Germany's momentarily successful rush against Serbia, with the co-operation of Bulgaria. The Allies are sending a force by way of Saloniki to help Serbia and to intercept the German armies on their way to the Dardanelles, whither they are supposed to be headed. It is said this is to be an expedition of 500,000 men, many of whom have already landed. It is probable that Germany will be headed off and quite possible that a large part of her armies will be destroyed in this last effort to break the ever-tightening ring of the Allies. She has tried Belgium, France and Russia and has failed in all. Now she is striking desperately at Serbia and is doomed to another failure, we may be sure. And what of the German fleet? It is well preserved and harmless, as we all know. From the first check of the German armies before Paris there has been continual betterment and increasing strength and progress on the part of the Allies. Ultimate victory, of the only kind acceptable to the Allies, is daily becoming more and more clear and tangible. Certainly, there has not been greater cause for optimism at any period of the war than at the present.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

During the past few weeks the war news has been a bewildering record of kaleidoscopic changes. The treachery of Bulgaria and the declaration of war upon her by Russia and Italy; the reverses and successes in Serbia; the change of commanders at Gallipoli; the problematic action of Greece; the turning back of the German invasion of Russia; the unceasing struggle on the Western front with so little gained, so many valuable lives lost—these and more have thrown a sort of veil over the whole situation which it is impossible to penetrate.

One thing in the whole maze is evident. The Germans have lost the initiative with which they entered upon the struggle. They have found the road to Paris and Calais blocked effectually and hopelessly; they have found that the Russian tide which they had turned back is again flooding down upon them and the dream of a Russian conquest is over. Now they have turned their attention to Serbia, where they have to face not only the Serbs but also a strong force of the

allied troops, probably Russian and Italian as well as English and French, while their attack on Serbia has resulted in a new attack on Turkey and renewed pressure of the former operations on Gallipoli peninsula. There will be no triumphal procession through Serbia to Constantinople upon which the Germans were counting. Events in this theatre are now at white heat and will be the centre of great interest during the next few weeks and perhaps months.

The appointment of Major-General Munro to take command of the British forces on the Gallipoli peninsula follows a change also in the command of the French forces. General Serrail, who took so prominent a part in the defense of Verdun against the attacks by the armies under the German Crown Prince, is now in command of the French expedition to the Dardanelles. General Munro, as is already known, succeeds General Sir Ian Hamilton who, though a military leader of surpassing ability, has not, perhaps, conducted the Dardanelles campaign with the push and dash that might be expected of a younger commander. Together General Serrail and General Munro may be expected to start an offensive movement which will clear the Turks from Gallipoli and open the way to Constantinople. It is quite possible that the next few weeks will bring surprises both in Serbia, where things are dark enough at present, and at the Dardanelles. Winter is approaching and winter conditions on Gallipoli are not enviable. No doubt an effort will be made by the Entente to secure a firmer foothold here, but of the means or the measures none but the commanders know.

The great drive in the West, as was predicted months ago, will not begin before next spring, although many critics saw in the great battles of the past few weeks the beginning of the move that was to drive the Germans out of France and Belgium.

GRECO-SERBIAN TREATY

Premier Zaimis of Greece is less frank than Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg. The latter admitted that in invading Belgium, Germany was violating a treaty and doing Belgium a great wrong; his plea of justification was that of military necessity. The new Greek premier, with less sincerity, informs Serbia and her allies that the treaty of alliance between Greece and Serbia, according to his interpretation of it, does not require Greece to go to the aid of her ally under present conditions. Doubtless that is the interpretation of King Constantine, and Zaimis is in office because he consents to be the king's echo. It is also, no doubt, the interpretation of Queen Sophia and of her brother, the Kaiser. The interpretation originated at Berlin, was accepted by the queen-consort at Athens, was received by the king and passed on to the new premier. That probably is the truth of the matter.

It is not Venizelos' interpretation of the treaty; and it was because he refused to accept it that the king asked for his resignation. We know how the late premier interprets that treaty, for we have his own published statement with regard to it. In this statement Venizelos sets forth plainly his country's obligations in the event of Serbia being attacked by Bulgaria. "Serbia," he said, "would be compelled to invoke our military participation in the war in defence of Serbia against the Bulgarian attack. If we refused such an appeal coming from Serbia, which we are bound to honor under the terms of our treaty with that nation—we would either have to tear up the treaty and stand confessed before the whole world as guilty of flagrantly committing a breach of faith, or go to Serbia's assistance under unfavorable conditions."

Venizelos' interpretation of the treaty cannot be reconciled with that of the king and the king's new minister. Of course the Cretan statesman is in the right. He is zealous for the honor of his country. King Constantine is less careful about the honor of Greece than he is about the friendship of his Imperial brother-in-law, and the new premier is simply the king's mouthpiece. This, doubtless, is the real explanation of the conflicting interpretations of the Greco-Serbian treaty.

NOTES

The World's Evangelical Alliance has circulated for signature by representatives of the Christian Churches a manifesto recommending that people of all denominations should offer themselves for the service of united prayer in their country's cause, that public meetings should be arranged throughout the country, and that an effort be made to include the homes of those unable to attend.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

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WHEN CRITICIZING.

Many an unpleasant thing needs to be done in a pleasant way. Teachers and parents, and people in business life who are responsible for the work of others must from time to time speak in criticism or points out how an improvement can be made in the way of doing things. Such a word of criticism, or correction, or of suggested improvement can have the effect of being either a shove down or a lift up. It can come to the one addressed as a slap in the face, or as a hearty grip of the hand. The word can be spoken with a disarming smile of reassurance, or a hard and discouraging look of condemnation. And

the heartening, lifting, smiling word of admonition or suggestion brings a hundred per cent better response than the other sort; it gets the very results that we are after, while the word that antagonizes is liable to defeat the whole thing. Love is a paying proposition; unlove is a dead loss.
S. S. TIMES.



Come! Come! Come!

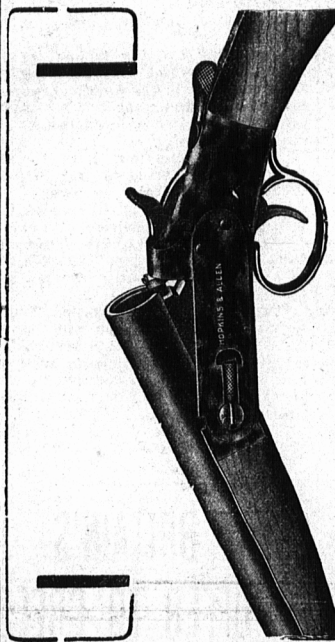
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Green Label, Unshrinkable Underwear, all wool, \$1.00
Red Label, Stanfield's, \$1.35
Fine Merino Underwear, extra value, \$1.00 per suit.
Heavy weight Merino, English make, all sizes; regular \$1.50 value, \$1.00 per suit
Woolen Gloves for Fall and Winter, good strong Mocha Gloves, 85c
Also Heavy Kid Gloves, strongly made and spells comfort, 85c
Grey Mocha Gloves, regular \$1.25 value for \$1.00
Natural Mocha Gloves, well made and warm, good wear, special value, \$1.00
Something just a little better in Heavy Mocha, well lined, extra good value, also in Dog Skin, \$1.00

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THAT BULGARIAN RESERVISTS ARE TRAVELLING FREE THROUGH GREECE IS A GERMAN STORY.

ROME, Oct. 24.—Reports from a German source affirm that the Greek government is permitting Bulgarian reservists who wish to return to Bulgaria, to travel free. The same source states that the Greek government has

ordered that former Premier Venizelos discontinue his relations with the Entente Powers, threatening him with expulsion. Other telegrams from Athens state that negotiations between the Greek government and the Entente continue, but with little hope of success. A message to the Idea Nazionale says that the Entente Powers have presented an energetic note to Athens and have fixed a period for a reply.



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