

WHAT GERMANY ASKED

FRANCE HAD TO PAY HEAVILY IN 1870.

Toston Protests Over the Severity of Allied Terms Recall Treatment Received by French Nation Fifty Years Ago—Germans Better Able to Pay Indemnity With Vast Riches in Coal, Iron, Potash and Manufactures.

HOWLS of wrath, mixed with loud lamentations, arise from all parts of Germany. Alackaday, the erstwhile big bully has been ordered to settle for his crimes. The Supreme Council of the Allies has presented the war bill—\$56,000,000,000 in gold, to be paid in instalments over a period of 42 years. Also a little additional tax in the meantime of 12 per cent. on all exports from Germany. Hence the acrimony and the frantic protestations that the "Zahorians" cannot possibly "insane bill pay."

Just fifty years ago the shoe was on the other foot. It was France who had to pay then, and Germany gave little heed to her condition. Broken and bleeding, France was ordered by Bismarck to hand over her two rich provinces of Alsace and Lorraine to Germany and into the bargain to pay an indemnity of one billion dollars in four years. And remember that at the purchasing power of a dollar in 1871 the above sum would represent about \$2,500,000,000 to-day.

To increase the agony of France at that moment civil war broke out. And what did old Bismarck do? He threatened to occupy Paris unless the loyal French troops squelched the forces of the Communists immediately, and as a punishment to France that "man of blood and iron" made the peace terms harsher than had been proposed by him in the beginning.

Says the official communication of the Imperial German Chancellor to the Reichstag in this connection:

"The terms of payment of the war indemnity have been shortened; the first half milliard francs (\$100,000,000) will be delivered within thirty days following the occupation of Paris by the Versailles army. The second payment, amounting to one thousand million francs (\$200,000,000) is to be made in the course of this year by the end of December. Not till then are we bound to evacuate the forts before Paris. The fourth half milliard (\$100,000,000) had to be paid by May 1, 1872. With reference to the last three milliards (\$600,000,000) the stipulations of the preliminaries of the Treaty of Peace will be adhered to and the payments will be concluded by the last of March, 1874. The French Government hopes to be able to satisfy our requirements."

Thus France not only lost her two provinces but was ordered to pay within three years an indemnity of practically \$2,500,000,000. Instead of whining about it as Germany is doing to-day, France bravely set about the task of discharging this under the circumstances—appalling what. There the first President of the new republic had loans floated and directed his great genius to the speedy liquidation of that debt. For until the last farthing had been paid German troops were to remain in France. Thanks to the wonderful industry, frugality and patriotism of the French people every copper of the indemnity was paid off in the amazing short space of three years. Bismarck's sole regret as he expressed it was that he had not imposed double the indemnity on France.

Germany is in better condition today to pay than was France in 1871. Germany has double the population France had fifty years ago, and modern machinery has enormously increased the means of producing wealth. Just before the war, Germany with a total annual trade of \$5,360,000,000, ranked second to Britain only as the world's greatest commercial nation. Germany has great natural resources. Quite apart from the coal in the international Saar Valley, Germany has vast areas of coal in several places well within her own boundaries. The deposits in Silesia alone are said to be almost inexhaustible. In 1913 Germany mined 230 million tons of coal. Germany also has huge deposits of lignite from which all the dyes and chemicals forming so important a branch of her trade are manufactured. Germany's iron ore smelted in 1913 amounted to 30 million tons, her zinc to 700,000 tons and the sugar she refined to 2,800,000 tons. But potash is Germany's greatest natural product. Germany is about the only country in the world where potash is found in vast quantities in its natural state. The whole world is really dependent on Germany for potash, for potash and its derivative chemicals are vital to trade and commerce. The shutting off of the German potash field by the war forced other countries to supply their needs by the expensive processes of extracting potash from ashes and from other minerals which held a small content of it. A plant was started at Muskoka Wharf during the war to try and extract the needed chemical from the seams of felspar in the granite. To-day, every one will seek the natural product. Potash, chiefly used in preparing fertilizer, is becoming more and more vital to the agricultural life of Ontario. The demand is world-wide, and outside the deposits in Lorraine now under French rule, Germany has nearly all the natural potash in the world in the huge deposits in Prussian Saxony. In 1913 Germany, chiefly from Saxony, mined almost 16 million tons of potash rock and salt. Potash is worth \$200 a ton in Toronto to-day. And such raw products were only a few in Germany's trade which was mainly in her manufactured articles.

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Stories of Cat-Haters.

Some famous people have been subject to the strange complaint which causes its victims to bolt from a room should a cat enter it. When staying at Schonbrunn after the Battle of Wagram, Napoleon was heard in the middle of the night shouting loudly for help. The equerries rushed in to find their master making desperate lunges with his sword at a cat sheltered behind the bed curtains, but his hand was so trembling with fear that he could not drive the animal away.

Miss Louisa Merrick, who painted Lord Roberts' portrait in India, relates that she had to banish her kitten whenever the commander-in-chief came to her studio. "I was told," she adds, "that on one of Lord Roberts' voyages home he asked to have the cat removed as soon as he came on board. An American passenger, unaware of Lord Roberts' identity, said to Lady Roberts, 'Don't you think that gentleman must have been a mouse in a former state?' Lady Roberts' reply is not recorded."

Dr. Weir Mitchell calls this complaint astrophobia—a term which the etymology goes back to Herodotus. When the father of history first encountered the cat in Egypt, he called it "ailuros," or tail waver. Dr. Mitchell says that he personally knew thirty-one people who could not detect the presence of a cat though it was neither seen nor heard by them. He thinks that astrophobia is due to the existence of "olfactory emanations distinguished by some as odors and by others felt not as odors but only in their results on nervous systems unusually and abnormally susceptible."

Be Careful How You Turn.

An ancient belief exists in the virtues of dancing or turning round in the direction of the sun. Sun dances are still held in Mexico, Chile, and Spain, in which the turn of the dance are arranged astronomically and the movements of the heavenly bodies are followed in the dance both as to time and direction.

We are taught not to stir a pot the wrong way or the sugar in our tea; while mayonnaise sauce would be ruined if stirred one way and then the other.

A story is told of some Scottish boatmen who considered it unlucky to start on a voyage, however short, unless they turned their craft round three times with the sun.

It may be asked why once or twice would not have answered just as well. The number three, however, is one upon which the superstitious set great store. Some of the ancients regarded it as the perfect number, for it represented the beginning, the middle, and the end; it was the Trinity.

So round went the canny Scots' boat three times with the sun.

Prisoners Who Receive Alms.

Whatever may be the fate of political prisoners in Portugal, ordinary offenders have a pretty easy time of it.

The windows of the lowest tiers of prison-cells are often quite close to the ground, and they are frequently situated near some public highway.

Prisoners are permitted to ask alms of passers-by. Where the windows of the cells are high above the ground the occupants let down bags or small tins by means of long pieces of string or cord, and there is one prison in Oporto, close to a church, where such a receptacle is continually dangling before the eyes of folks going to and from the church.

Keep Her Quiet.

Young Lady Patient.—"You told me to put my tongue out, doctor, but you have not looked at it!"

Doctor.—"No, miss; I merely wanted time to write your prescription."

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The Haldimand Municipal Association, at their meeting in Cayuga, elected the following officers for the coming year:—President—W. Teasdale, Clerk of N. Cayuga; 1st Vice President—R. S. Colter, Clerk of Cayuga; 2nd Vice President—S. W. Winger, Treasurer of Walpole; Secretary—John Senn, Clerk of Oneida; Treasurer—John Avery, Clerk of Caledonia.

The distribution of trees from the Dominion Forestry Branch nursery stations at Indian Head and Sutherland, Saskatchewan, for planting on farms on the prairies continues steadily from year to year. It averages now about

five million trees per year, the trees being sent out without charge on condition that they are properly planted and cared for.

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PICTURES ARE NOT ALWAYS TRUTHFUL

Some Mail Order Houses Find Them Very Useful in Their Business.

CAN "DOCTOR" PHOTOGRAPH

Concerns Can Give Wrong Impressions With Illustrations While Sticking to Truth in Descriptions.

(Copyright.)

"Figures never lie," it has been claimed, but this is far from the truth. The defaulter who has "doctored" his books in such a way that he has escaped detection for years, knows that figures can be made to lie. The shrewd politician, who knows how to juggle statistics, knows that they can be made to tell a story that is far from the truth.

But there is another medium of expression which is also supposed to be a stickler for truth, but which is a greater prevaricator than figures. That is a picture. A picture of any person or thing, supposedly, is an exact reproduction of the original, but this is frequently only a wild supposition. The photographer who did not make his picture tell a little fib now and then would soon go out of business from lack of patronage.

Pictures Better Than Words.

Pictures have come to occupy a very important place in the life of the world in recent years. It has been said that for newspaper purposes a picture which tells its story strikingly is worth more than columns of written words on the same subject. Newspapers and magazines have realized the truth of this fact and as a result pictures are used profusely in illustrating the news and fiction of the day.

No one has been quicker to realize the possibilities of the picture than properly—or it might be said improperly—used, than the mail order man. He has realized that a picture will do more to sell his kind of merchandise than a column of words and figures. One reason for this is that it is harder to catch a picture in a lie than it is in printed words and figures. For instance, if you sell a man a table on the strength of a printed statement that it is 48 inches wide and if when the table reaches the customer it is only 36 inches wide, the customer not only has a moral right to kick, but he has a legal

right to sue for the price he has paid.

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W. M. HOSKIN JARVIS, ONT.

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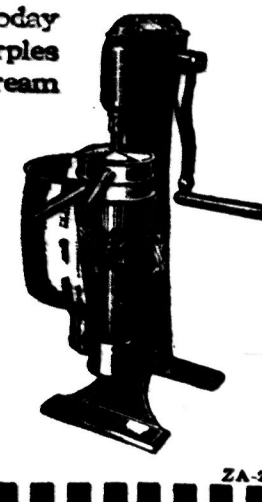
—the only separator that will skim clean at widely-varying speeds
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