

TALK OF EUROPE

TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND pounds, according to the London *Daily Telegraph*, are needed to provide for 'the careful restoration of the fabric and the equipment and the maintenance in the future' of the English home of the Washingtons, Sulgrave Manor in Northamptonshire. The old house was purchased, in 1914, by a British Committee as part of the celebration of the hundred years of peace. The present memorial looks forward to Sulgrave Manor becoming 'a permanent link of friendship between the British and the American peoples, a museum and depository of documentary, pictorial, and other records of Anglo-American relations, a rendezvous for all Americans visiting the old country, and a centre of influence for the future.'

ACCORDING to *Le Cri de Paris*, there exists a 'Corsican Question.' A solitary Corsican has handed in a memorandum to President Wilson, and has had an answer, from a secretary, that the President would not fail to take cognizance of his memoir.

Paris waits to be torn asunder, and Parisians are whispering that the delays of the Conference are due to the Corsican Question!

THE tribute which Marshal Foch paid to the American troops on March 11th, seems to have missed a great many American readers. Moreover, such translations as the writer has seen have been but carelessly done. THE LIVING AGE takes pleasure in reprinting for its readers the official translation.

I received to-day a report on the strength of the American troops. I shall not give it to you in detail. I am only going to set forth to you the final effort of the army of the United States.

A year ago, on March 11, the American army in France numbered only 300,000

men, or, in other words, six infantry divisions; they were in course of training. There arrived 30,000 men per month.

On March 21st, Germany launched her offensive against the hinge of the allied armies in the region of Saint-Quentin. You know what its effects were. It soon reached the Scarpe, advanced up the Somme, which it crossed, and progressed down the Oise. The situation suddenly became very grave.

In those critical days, on the 28th of March, General Pershing and General Bliss generously came forward with an offer to lead their men into battle, and they both said to me: 'We are here to be killed; forward then with our men.'

Soon after, on the 25th of April, at Sarcus we met the same Generals; on the 2d of May, at Abbeville, with the concurrence of the Allied governments, we asked the American government to land in France, each month, 120,000 infantry men or machine-gunners, and replacement troops.

In fact, during the month of March, the United States sent to us 69,000 men; in April, 94,000; 200,000 in May; 245,000 in June; 295,000 in July; 235,000 in August.

The strength of the American army went up from 300,000 men on the 11th of March to 954,000 in July, and 1,700,000 in October.

On the 2d of June, the Versailles Supreme War Council asked President Wilson to continue sending troops in the same way, from 200,000 to 300,000 men per month, and to have in readiness for the spring of 1919 one hundred American divisions. President Wilson answered that he agreed, and that if more were needed, they would be forthcoming.

But, during that time, the American troops did not remain idle. As early as the month of May, two American divisions went into the fight with the first French army in the region of Montdidier; three were in the Vosges, where they relieved the French; two were in training.

In June, two more were on the Marne, at Château-Thierry, and in the Belleau wood, where they assumed a large share of the resistance offered to the enemy.

On July the 18th, five American divisions took part in the victorious counter-offensive of the 6th and 10th French armies. and contributed greatly to its success.

At the same time, on the 24th of July, the first American army was formed, under the command of General Pershing. Its appointed task was to clear the communications between Paris and Nancy by pushing the enemy back at Saint-Mihiel.

On the 12th of September, 14 American divisions, 8 in the first line and 6 in support, conquered the salient of Saint-Mihiel, capturing 200 guns and 15,000 prisoners.

Some days later, on the 26th of September, between the Aisne and the Meuse, in the rough Argonne region, 14 American divisions went into a great offensive. On the second day, Montfaucon was left behind; on the 14th of October Grandpré was taken, Châtillon on the 21st, Bantheville on the 30th, on the 1st of November Buzancy, on the 4th Beaumont, and on the 9th the whole line of the Meuse, from Mouzon to Bazeilles, was in our possession.

In the meantime, two American divisions lent their assistance to the 5th French army near Romains; two others to the British armies in the region of Saint-Quentin, and still two others, jointly with the 4th French army, stormed the formidable positions at Orfeuil; then, two American divisions shared in the offensive of the Flanders group, on the Lys and the Scheldt. Finally, six more were getting ready, together with the French army, for the offensive of the 14th of November in Lorraine, when the armistice of November the 11th was signed, taking our weapons from us.

Thus the American army, supported by a government firmly determined to keep up the fight to the very end, had returned to Lafayette the visit he had paid to America at the time of her birth.

Thus, it had powerfully aided to the securing of victory through the armistice, which is tantamount to a capitulation, an absolute capitulation.

I think of those moving memories, of

days of anguish and days of success, as I raise my glass in honor of President Wilson, who so valiantly upheld us in the war, and in honor of my American comrades in arms, of the Generals and the soldiers, all equally glorious, thanks to whom a decisive victory has been achieved for freedom.

A DANGEROUS epidemic of rabies has appeared in England, 150 cases having been reported within three months, 98 from Devon, 25 from Cornwall, and 23 from Wales. In April, the danger menaced London, cases of the disease were reported from Acton in Middlesex, and a mad dog at Ealing bit three people before a farmer managed to kill it with a spade. As a result, a strict muzzling order has been enforced in all the Home Counties. The order does not apply to packs of hounds which are being exercised under control, to sporting dogs under control, or to sheep dogs, but all other dogs of high and low degree, from Pekinese to village mongrel, must wear muzzles in public places. A merry war has raged over 'profiteering' in muzzles. There having been no case of rabies in England since 1897 (the disease was then scientifically stamped out by Mr. Walter Long), the epidemic is thought to have been brought over from the Continent by dogs smuggled in by returning soldiers.

It is quite impossible to make head or tail out of the Irish situation. The Irish Republican Parliament still continues its sessions in Dublin as if the 'His Majesty's Government' were but a dream, and Dublin Castle goes on pretending not to notice the independents. Mr. De Valera proposes 'to gain the necessary international recognition of the Republic by sending representatives to Paris and ambassadors and consuls to other countries.' In order to provide the necessary funds for the work of the Republican government, it has been decided to call for a loan of a million pounds.

There have been several collisions with the police, a magistrate or two has been mysteriously shot, and Limerick has seen a kind of *émeute* signalized by the alliance of Sinn Fein and the Workingmen. No

one has come forward with any definite policy, yet all observers feel that 'something' ought to be done. The British papers are clearly opposed to any campaign of coercion. Mr. George Moore, with what the *Spectator* calls 'a brilliant flash of imagination' writes that Ireland ought to be made the corridor between America and Great Britain. 'A great port on the West Coast, a new and splendid railway across the island; a train ferry to Holyhead (until a tunnel is made), a mighty stream of traffic through the heart of Ireland. Give Ireland a great position in the world by making her the most striking link in the League of Nations.' G. H. Powell, an Englishman of Englishmen, complains of the vacillating mind which 'passes Home Rule Bills it dares not enforce and imprisons convicted criminals only to release them with an apology.' A Unionist writes that the Sinn Feiners represent only a minority and that great numbers of electors have not voted. For John McGrath, writing in the *Fortnightly*, the whole Irish situation is a tragedy. 'There are people, Irish, I am sorry to say, as well as English and others, who seem to think all this is a very excellent Irish comedy. It is a tragedy!' And if tragedy, there is nothing more tragic than the position of the Irish soldiers who fought with the Allies. Theirs has been the greatest sacrifice, for when they returned to their own land, they got little thanks for all they had done. Captain Stephen Gwynn is now touring Ireland urging the necessity of organization among the men who served.

BOLSHEVISM, if one can judge by the few apparently trustworthy reports, is decidedly on the down-grade. The system, simply does not work, quite apart from any conditions resulting from the Allied blockade. That portion of Lloyd George's speech of April 16, which dealt with the Russian situation will be found interesting. He says:

I do not despair of the solution being found. There are factors in the situation even now which are promising. Reliable

information which we have received indicates that while the Bolshevik forces are apparently growing in strength Bolshevism itself is rapidly on the wane. It is breaking down before the relentless pressure of economic facts. This process must inevitably continue. You cannot carry on such a great country on such crude principles as those which are being inculcated by the Bolsheviks. When Bolshevism as we know it, and as Russia has known it, to her sorrow, disappears, then the time will come for another effort for the reestablishment of peace in Russia.

But the time is not yet. We must have patience and we must have faith. We are dealing with a nation which, after being misgoverned for centuries, has been defeated and trampled to the ground, largely through the corruption, inefficiency, and treachery of its own government. Its losses have been colossal. All that largely accounts for the real frenzy which seized upon a great people, and that is why the nation which has gone through untold horrors has abandoned itself for the moment to fantastic and lunatic experiments. But there are unmistakable signs that Russia is emerging from the fever, and when the time comes that she is once more sane, calm, and normal, we shall make peace in Russia. And until we make peace in Russia it is idle to say that the world is at peace.

CAMILLA LACEY, near Dorking, the country residence of Mr. Leverton Harris, was destroyed by fire in the early hours of the 17th. ult. The outbreak was discovered by the servants, and before anything could be done to check it the house was doomed. together with the entire contents. Only the outer walls remain standing.

Camilla Lacey was rich in historic and literary associations. The original house was built by Miss Burney from the proceeds of her third novel; hence the title. She was the daughter of Dr. Burney, celebrated for his knowledge of music, and in 1793 was married in Mickleham Church, close by, to Chevalier D'Arblay, who was a guard at the Tuileries on the night when Louis XVI fled to Varennes. About this time many distinguished French exiles had

taken refuge at Juniper Hall, in the neighborhood. The house, or cottage, was gradually enlarged and improved by successive owners, but many of the original features had been preserved, including 'The Burney Room.' This contained the manuscripts of several of Fanny Burney's novels, original letters and other correspondence, and family portraits, which Mr. Harris had been at much pains and expense to collect. The whole of these have been destroyed, together with valuable antique furniture and other art treasures.

Sir Walter Scott once visited Camilla Lacey, and afterwards wrote: 'She (Mme. D'Arblay) told me she had wished to see two persons, myself, of course, being one, and George Canning. This was really a compliment to be pleased with, a nice, little, handsome pat of butter, made up by a neat-handed Phyllis of a dairymaid, instead of the grease, fit only for cart wheels.'

Camilla Lacey was picturesquely situated in the beautiful Box Hill district, near where George Meredith lived and died.

THE EDITOR'S NOTE-BOOK

Joseph Galtier is a staff correspondent of the Parisian daily, *Le Temps*.

Hilaire Belloc, author and editor, has devoted much time to a special study of mediæval civilization.

Maximilian Harden, needs no introduction to American readers. News from Germany has been strangely silent concerning his rôle in the present *melée*.