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## A JOURNAL FOR AMERICANS IN EUROPE

No. 1103. Vol. XXI. No. 36.

ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN VIENNA ZURICH ROME

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1915.

### Latest News.

Short items of interest from various sources.

#### The Russian Reserves.

Petersburg, March 25th. The Government has ordered 23 annual levies of the "Reichswehr" to have themselves enlisted. The recruits for 1916 and 1917 have also been called up.—Desertion from the Russian armies, especially at the front, is increasing more and more. The Army administration has issued a special paper, in which the names of deserters (about 600 every week) are published.

#### Why France publishes no Casualty lists.

Metz, March 25th. The *Lothringer Zeitung* says: The French General Staff stubbornly refuses to publish casualty lists. The reason for this is that the losses have been so terribly heavy that the authorities do not dare to make the public fully acquainted with them. As an instance of the losses sustained by the French, the paper says that in 23 villages 1773 Germans and 5722 Frenchmen are buried, who were killed in the battle of Lorraine on August 20th and 21st. This means three Frenchmen to every German.

#### Allies' Attacks Repulsed.

Berlin, March 25th. French attacks were repulsed near Pont-à-Mousson, Badonviller and Reichsackerkopf. Fighting at the Hartmannswiekerkopf is still in progress.—The German column pursuing the Russians beyond Memel made 500 prisoners and captured 3 guns and 3 machine-guns. Russian attacks at Taurroggen were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. Several attacks against the German positions at Ostrolenka also failed: 20 officers, 2500 men and 5 machine-guns were captured.

#### Renewed Fighting in the Carpathians.

Vienna, March 25th. Another great battle has developed in the Carpathian mountains west of the Uszok Pass. Strong Russian forces try to drive the Austro-Hungarians from the heights. 1500 prisoners captured. The Russians were driven from several villages in the northernmost part of the Bukovina.

#### Five Victims of a Submarine.

Reuter, London, March 25th. It is reported from Fecamp that the French sailing ship *Jacques Coeur* was stopped by a German submarine 85 miles from the Lizard. The *Jacques Coeur* was asked to take over 28 men of the crew of a British steamer, one of five which had been sunk by the submarine.

#### How the "Dresden" went down.

Berlin, March 25th. An official report has arrived from the Commander of the *Dresden*, describing how the cruiser was attacked by three British warships when lying in Cumberland Bight, Isle of Juan Fernandez. The *Dresden* replied to the British firing until all guns and three ammunition stores were destroyed. It was pointed out to the British Admiral that the attack had been made in neutral waters. But when the *Glasgow* continued firing in spite of the representations made, the Commander of the *Dresden* blew up his ship to prevent her falling into the hands of the English. It is not true that the *Dresden* hoisted a white flag and surrendered, as described in the official British report.

#### Growing Unrest in India.

London, March 25th. *Times* learns from Bombay that the Indian Council has unanimously supported the Government's proposal of the declaration of state of war in India. In Bengal and in the Punjab "anarchist" elements are said to be at work committing robberies and other crimes. In the Punjab "agrarian" causes may also have added to the unrest. The movements in these districts are doubtlessly connected with each other. It is feared that doubts as to the loyalty of the Indian masses may arise, a situation which would endanger India's position within the British Empire.

#### The Chinese-Japanese Conflict.

London, March 25th. *Daily Telegraph* reports from Peking that the Chinese-Japanese negotiations are continuing. China refuses to compromise in the Mongolian question. The Japanese are already landing troops in China. The garrison of Tsinanfu was increased; 3000 men were landed at Mukden and the same number at Dairen. A number of transports are lying off the coast near Taku Bank, Hankow and at the Yangtze. China has concentrated 73000 men and 180 guns near the capital.

#### American Intervention in Mexico.

Madrid, March 25th. *Epoca* says that the United States Government prepares for a mobilization prior to an immediate intervention in Mexico.

### Heavy British Losses.

According to the English papers, no less than 700 officers fell in the fight of Neuve-Chapelle.

London, March 24. In spite of the studied attitude of apathy to all matters concerning the war, which the upper classes here endeavor to assume, the losses of Neuve-Chapelle have come as a mighty heavy blow and that on account of the number of officers who have fallen. The censorship has been pursuing the policy of secretiveness which is causing the utmost irritation. But in the Neuve-Chapelle matter, the papers themselves have gone to work to learn the truth and the result is, that they announce the number of lost officers in that small engagement as having been over 700. Such a disaster is unknown in the war annals of British history. It has brought home, more than any other previous engagement, to the English mind, the seriousness of the war and the possibility and probability of much severer losses to come. The newspapers openly say, that the gain achieved was not anywhere nearly commensurate with the heavy losses entailed and, in consequence disagreeable questions are being asked, as to who is the culprit who is answerable for the bloody catastrophe. It is finally admitted that 12,000 men fell.

#### The Fate of Serbia.

London, March 25th. Sir Thomas Lipton, returning from Serbia tells of the terrible ravages of epidemics among the population. The cemeteries are too small for the immense number of people who die every day. Men and women are lying about in the houses and die without any medical assistance. If help does not arrive very soon to a sufficient extent, Serbia will meet her fate—a fate more terrible than from the hands of the enemy. Dr. Ryan, the American doctor said: "If help does not arrive, the Serbian nation will be extinguished from the surface of the earth in a very short time."

#### Another Disclosure in England about the War.

London, March 25th. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, giving a lecture in London, mentioned that Sir John French, the General-in-Chief of the British forces has made a special study of the territory where the English Expeditionary Force is fighting, for the last 5 years. (This means, of course, that the English have for the last 5 years waited for the opportunity to fight Germany in France and Belgium. The German official documents, stating this fact, have hitherto been treated derisively by the English Government and Press.)

#### Turks putting British to flight.

Constantinople, March 25. According to private advices from Bagdad the Turkish troops in their victorious advance have entered Korna. The English troops, who had retired to that city, withdrew to the South. In the fight for possession of the city the panic stricken Englishmen shot upon one another. The Turkish troops did not sustain any losses.

#### Holland Protests.

Hague, March 25. The Dutch government is about to deliver a note of protest to the English and French governments as regards their treatment of neutral shipping.

#### The Truth.

Petersburg, March 24. The *Russkoje Slovo* is one of the few papers here which now and again tells the truth. This it does now, in its statements concerning the widely reported state of starvation in which Berlin was told to be. The *Slovo* says:—"The reports as to the state of famine in Berlin are exaggerated. There is no lack of meat and plenty of fish and other victuals. Only as regards the consumption of bread is there a diminution. The theatres and the pleasure resorts are filled to overflowing which can scarcely be said to be the case in Russia."

#### U Boat Influences.

The rates for assurance at Lloyds has risen immensely since the submarine campaign began.

London, March 24. The *Daily Telegraph*, in spite of the would be comforting assurances given by Mr. Winston Churchill in the House of Commons, tells that the rates of insurance at Lloyds daily increase. In consequence of the onslaught of the German submarines during the past week, the premiums which were formerly at twenty shillings, have gone up to thirty and forty. Should the submarine boat invasion increase in intensity then there are no limits to the height insurance may reach, for already the brokers are exceedingly nervous and chary of accepting risks.

### British Dyes.

Another Failure of English Enterprise.

Certain sections of British Industries were hailing the war as the best opportunity to get rid of German competition, if not abroad at least in the home-markets. It was a gospel among the employers, in these branches of industry that only "cheap and nasty" work and cheap labor in Germany prevented them from competing successfully.

One of the chief products of this kind were aniline dyes of which German manufacturers almost held a monopoly, although they themselves did not enjoy a protective tariff at home. And one of the first acts of the economic war was the forming of a commission which was to enquire into the ways and means how to create a British dye industry.

After long deliberations certain propositions were made which, however, did not find much support in industrial circles. What the manufacturers wanted was protection pure and simple or a state guarantee of profits. A new scheme was proposed which introduced participation by the government. A prospectus was issued afterwards by the "British Dyes Limited" a company formed for the purpose of making aniline dyes, but when the subscription list was closed, only £448,000 were subscribed, not even half the amount laid up for subscription: Cash payments amounted only to £122,000, which was not sufficient to cover the expenses advanced by the government. And part of the subscriptions were only made conditionally. It looks very much as if nothing at all were to come of all the big words used in the beginning. If the £1,000,000 capital cannot be subscribed amongst those interested in the manufacture of dyes the government intends to withdraw from the scheme and it is very much to be doubted if another agreement can be arrived at with the two first met with no response. We feel sure that economic competition between the industrial countries of the world will after the war go on harder than ever. If England cannot succeed now in organizing her industries, which is an essential factor in economic competition, she will not be able to after the war either—unless she would be put before the alternative to do it or to go down industrially.

### Troubles in India.

The natives of the Punjab and the Bengales are in a very restless state of mind.

London, March 24. Very disquieting despatches have reached the India office from the Viceroy, Lord Hardinge. It is difficult to know exactly what it means, but there exists a very widespread movement against the government. In official circles it is stated that anarchists are at work, but such tenets are so very far away from the ideas of the Indian populations, that they seem scarcely credible. Further there appear to be doubts as to the loyalty of the population in general and there is a feeling of universal unrest which is making the white population considerably anxious, the more so as so many of the regular troops have been sent to the European war.

### Greek Neutrality.

Constantinople, March 24. The question of the open violation of neutrality on the part of the Greeks, whereby unlimited quantities of stores and ammunition are sent over the frontier to Serbia, by the route of Salonika, is attracting quite particular attention here.

### Rather Previous.

Brussels, March 24. *New York Herald* of Paris, whose Editor appears to have to be more Russian than the Russians, more French than the French, announced in its issue of March the 4th, which has just reached here, that all the forts of the Dardanelles had been reduced and, that no less than 52 ships of war had entered the narrows. For sensationalism and inaccuracy the Paris *New York Herald* beats all competitors.

### Financial Comparisons.

It appears that it has become a joke upon the London Stock Exchange to pretend to deal in German three per cents. It is harmless, as the three per cents with the London stamp, since the war broke out are not accepted here. In truth German Consols have suffered less than those of the English and French. In the middle of February the German 3% State loan has retrograded 5.55 to 70.25; the English 2½ consols 7.25 to 68.50; the 3% French Rentes had gone down 12.50 standing at 68.75.

### That second attack.

Prospects of the Allied fleets in the coming assault upon the Dardanelles.

#### An enormous rush.

Ancient Naval Units sent to the front. Suspicions respecting the British Admiralty reports.

By Aubrey Stanhope.

Inevitably there is to be a second attempt made, by the Allied fleets, to capture the Dardanelles. The first cannot be taken, more especially in view of the latest details published, as anything other than a dead failure on the part of the allied forces. That the English so acknowledge it to be, is evident by the recall of Admiral Carden who, it is understood, is to be replaced by Admiral de Robeck.

According to the Athens Correspondent of the Italian paper *Corriere de la Sera*, the losses of the Allies amount to 7,000 men. That is manifestly a gross exaggeration. But undoubtedly the losses were very much greater than the English or French care to admit. The Greek papers, who all have Correspondents in Lemnos, state that the number of dead may be taken as 2,000, that five ships have been sunk and four disabled. That the Commander of the *Inflexible* has been killed by the splinter from a shrapnell and the *Irresistible* sank five knots away from the town of Dardanos, and the *Ocean* 13 miles further off, shared the same fate. The *Inflexible* was hit hard and the water rushing into her lower parts drowned a number of the crew on duty there. The *Albion* was not so badly damaged, but lost 60 men. The *Gaulois* was badly crippled and sank, also the *Bouvet*; while the *Suffren*, very much damaged and with her machinery crippled, was just able to get away at minimum speed. Such are the reports from Athens where, as you know, the sentiment is more pro-English than otherwise.

#### No risks taken.

The English apparently do not wish to risk any of their new ships, for to replace those that have been sunk or disabled, they are sending out the *Queen*, 15,250 tons and the *Implacable*, sister ships of the *Irresistible*, *Bulwark* and *Formidable*, all three of which have now been sunk. The *Implacable* is 16 years old and, the *Queen* thirteen. The *French* are credited with being about to send out, to take part in the renewed assault, the entire five ships of the *Patrie* type, the others being the *Verité*, *Justice*, *Democrat* and *Republique*. Of those the *Verité* is the newest, built in 1907, and, together with the *Justice* and *Democrat*, built in 1904, made a trip to the United States in 1909. The *Patrie* and *Republique* were built in 1903 and 1902 respectively. All five are 14,900 tons. In artillery they carry the same heavy guns as the new coming English ships, that is to say four 30.5 cm cannon. But the *Verité*, *Justice* and *Democrat* carry ten 19.4 cm guns in second line, whereas the English ships have 12 15 cm guns at disposal.

#### An idea.

It is interesting enough to hear that the aged French war unit *Jauréguiberry*, twenty two years old, is to be sent to take part in the coming attack. This would seem to confirm the impression which some people have, that the Allies are prepared to sacrifice a lot of old and out of date warships in order to act as buffers for the few newer ones, to which would be confided that actual forcing of the Dardanelles. This might possibly be the case, otherwise it is difficult to account for the *Majestic*, twenty years old; the *Irresistible*, 17 years old; the *Ocean*, 17 years old; the *Prince George*, 20 years old; the *Charlemagne*, 20 years old; and the *Gaulois*, and the *Bouvet*, 19 years old; appearing as units in the joint fleet.

The newest ship, in fact the only really quite modern ship of the whole combined fleet is the *Queen Elizabeth*, not yet two years afloat, armed with eight 38.1 cm big guns and sixteen 15.2 cm with a tonnage of 28,500. She is the absolutely latest and best the British admiralty can show for active work and, it is stated that she has been somewhat badly mauled about in the first bombardment. The English might replace her with the *Warspite*, a sister ship, launched about one month after the *Queen Elizabeth*, that is to say in November of 1913.

#### The impression.

As may be imagined, the impression created by the failure of the efforts of the combined fleets has been very great. The Greeks, for instance, are congratulating themselves heartily upon the cleverness of the King whereby they were kept out of the fight. For as one of the Greek papers

remarks, "Had we taken part in the bombardment we would probably have lost most of our warships." And Greece has only just enough battle ships at command to hold the Turks in check. A few units gone, and Turkey would hold them on the seas.

The English lay claim to having done prodigious damage to the fortresses of the Dardanelles. That the Turks deny in the most positive manner, and they bring the evidence of independent witnesses to back what they say, to the effect that the forts are intact. [The Athens correspondent of the *Corriere della Sera* affirms that the forts are absolutely intact. The Constantinople Correspondent of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* asserts, in most positive manner, that no damage has been done.]

#### Rather Suspicious.

Indeed the English Admiralty reports appear highly suspicious. It is affirmed that the news of great loss of life and damage to the forts, was brought by the English Consul at the Dardanelles, who had been ordered to leave at once, and had arrived on board one of the English warships after packing and getting away in haste. Such evidence cannot be very reliable.

Even the Marine Correspondent of the London Times appears to be doubtful as to the Admiralty reports of wholesale damage done to the forts, for he writes:—"It is noteworthy, that the report of the Admiralty of the 8th of March tells, that forts L and U were silenced on the 6th and 7th, and that fort L had been demolished on the 5th. And yet, on the Thursday (the 8th March) those forts were able to reply to our fire. Naturally, to a certain degree, the defenders might have been able to replace their cannon by motor howitzers and field batteries. Also, the forts might have ceased firing to induce the ships to approach nearer, in order that they might come under fire. And, in truth, on the Thursday many batteries, which it was supposed had been disposed of, developed renewed activity."

#### The Turks delighted.

In the meanwhile, according to accounts received from many quarters, the Turks are quite delighted with the way the forts have sustained the attack, and the spirit of confidence and optimism runs high in the Army and Navy departments in Constantinople, and there is but one sentiment heard regarding the proposed renewed attack, namely, "Let them come, and they will get a still warmer reception than last time." There is one dominating hope amongst the Turks and it is, that the enemy should only be obliging enough to land large bodies of troops. So far there are about a couple of army corps of mixed troops, that the allies have brought to Lemnos. If with such small forces they expect to land on Turkish soil, they are doomed to a worse defeat of their troops, than that which their navies have already suffered.

### Count Andrassy visiting Berlin.

His meetings with prominent German statesmen.

Count Julius Andrassy, while in Berlin last week, attended the session of the Reichstag. Dr. Helfferich, the German secretary of the Treasury, called upon Count and Countess Andrassy in their box to pay his respects to the Hungarian statesman. After adjournment Mr. Kämpf, the president of the Reichstag, received the Count and the latter was introduced to a number of prominent delegates of all parties. Later he was received at the Foreign Office by Herr von Jagow, the secretary of State.

Amongst prominent personages the Count met during his stay in Berlin are Prince Hatzfeldt, Prince Schönaich-Carolath, Count Posadowsky, Count Monts and many others. Count Andrassy announced his intention of stopping in Berlin for another week.

#### Birth of Brunswick Prince.

A second son was born yesterday to the Duke and Duchess of Brunswick. The Duke of Brunswick, who is the son of the Duke of Cumberland married Princess Victoria Luise, only daughter of the German Emperor in 1913. An heir to the Brunswick Throne was born on March 18th, 1914.





# THE CONTINENTAL TIMES.

## Possibility of Two-Dollar Wheat.

Wheat sold as low as 48 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents a bushel on the Chicago Board of Trade in January, 1895; it had touched 50 cents in the previous September. Those were the days of the "empty dinner pail," agrarian distress in the West and free silver agitation. It held well to the sixties even when lowest during the next five years. In the meantime, a corner in 1898 sent it up to \$1.85. The minimum prices were in the eighties and nineties, with two exceptions, from this time on. In January, 1907, it went down to 71 cents; in July, 1914, it fell to 77 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents, but in September of the same year it reached \$1.23 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The general tendency in recent years has been upward. In the last decade it has frequently gone above the \$1 point. Meanwhile, until quite recently, exports have been falling off; home consumption has been increasing. In 1880, 40.18 per cent of all the wheat raised in the United States went abroad; in 1912 this percentage had been reduced to 12.83. The wheat area in the United States has not been extending proportionately to the increase of population and the consequent consumption. Within the last twenty years wheat bread has largely taken the place of corn bread and rye bread throughout the rural districts.

Consumption does not altogether account for the present advance in wheat prices. The United States itself, and every other country on the globe that can do so, is storing the cereal. The allegation is made that 10,000,000 bushels of wheat is stored in the West today, that is removed from market. This is probably well founded, but the answer to it is that the wheat is stored for later milling. Just as textile weavers lay in raw cotton, millers lay in wheat in anticipation of a shortage or a rise. Europe cannot be consuming at present all the grain it is importing from the United States. Exports of wheat from American ports, chiefly for Europe, were nearly six times greater in value in December, 1914, than in December, 1913. Value does not tell the whole story here, but it is fairly indicative of the movement in volume. We have actual figures, however, for last week. According to Bradstreet, exports of wheat, flour included, in the period of six days, were 9,837,671 bushels, against 3,779,908 for the corresponding week last year; from Jan. 1 to the present time the wheat exports have been about double what they were a year ago.

Nor are storage, increasing consumption and increasing exportation the only factors. Wheat is now advancing on the prospects of short crops next year in countries affected by war. The department of agriculture in Washington in recent months has repeatedly called attention to the falling off in the world harvest of 1914. A recent bulletin says: "Additional reports received . . . concerning the 1914 world harvest of wheat show that the shortage in some countries, as compared with the previous year, was larger than shown in earlier estimates." The aggregate shortage this year, as compared with last, is put at 386,000,000 bushels. If the wheat crop was so shortened last year in war-infested countries, with the harvest largely gathered before hostilities began, what, it may be asked, will it be next year in countries where there has been neither plowing nor sowing?

In the United States, speculation is a far less important factor in wheat prices than was the case formerly, because the farmers rather than the exchanges now, to a very great extent, determine the supply forwarded to market, and consequently the quotations. Farmers, millers, commission men, warehouse men, speculators, all alike are influenced at present more by the prospect of supply for next year than by any other factor in the situation. If the war were to end tomorrow, it would be found, we are certain, that an immense quantity of wheat is in private storage on the farms and in the small towns as well as in the elevators; but this surplus is now being held tightly on the theory that wheat will be higher next year. And if it shall go to \$2 in 1915 because of short supply and great demand, this will be no more remarkable than that it fell to 48 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents twenty years ago because of oversupply and underdemand.

## The Embargo on War Material.

The *Literary Digest* lately took a poll of the American newspapers with regard to the question, whether they favored stopping by law the exportation of war materials to belligerents.

Of 450 replies only 244 (a little over half) were negative, while 167 were affirmative and 29 non-committal.

Numbers alone are deceptive, for each newspaper speaks at most only for a majority of its readers, and may speak for a minority, so that a poll of all American citizens might show a very different result. Besides that, however, it should not be lost sight of that the quality of the votes in questions of this sort, should of rights be the determining factor if the voting is not far from being equal.

When, now, we consider that the papers or citizens who are opposed to an embargo by law upon the exportation of war material give as their reason mostly the profits we should lose thereby, while those in favor of such a law are so mostly on moral grounds, then we are of the opinion that in this question men of heart and feeling are opposed to men of greed and selfishness; and therefore we hold that the quality of the voters in favor of such embargo is infinitely superior to the quality of the voters opposed to an embargo.

Surely the poll of the *Literary Digest* shows a close enough result to impress a man who approaches the question with an open mind with the strong opposition against the exportation of war material and we should have thought that Congress would have been moved thereby to take the matter up and have it decided in open court before the whole country, whether the United States is so dollar mad as to want to continue the shameful traffic in arms, or whether she considers the priceless treasure of her fair name more important than the blood money flowing into the coffers of a few manufacturers.

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