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LUCERNE

No. 1158. Vol. XXII. No. 16.

## LATEST NEWS. SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Sultan Quite Well.

**Constantinople,** Aug. 5. The Sultan is reported to be quite well again. He has been attending the usual palace festivities.

Fight in the Air. Hague, Aug. 5. A fight in the air between a Russian aeroplane and a German aeroplane and a Zeppelin airship is reported. The results are not given.

#### Consuls Flee.

Zurich, Aug. 5. In Warsaw, Brest Litowsk, Wilna and other threatened places, most of the foreign consuls have fled. The American Consul in Warsaw has remained at his post.

#### Diplomats in Council.

Paris, Aug. 5. It is proposed shortly to call a meeting of the diplomats of the Entente Powers to assemble in Paris, under the presidency of M. Delcassé.

#### Turks for Germany.

It is announced that a number of Turkish sick and wounded will be brought to Germany, to be cared for here at the various well known watering places of the Empire.

#### Fire in Constantinople.

**Constantinople,** August 5. Another of those periodical fires. which mark this dry season of the year, has taken place at Taxim in the European quarter. The German sanatorium has been burnt down.

#### Count Tisza Confident.

**Budapest**, Aug. 5. Count Tisza has expressed himself as pleased over the progress of the war of late. He says: "All goes splendidly at the front. It is a real pleasure to watch things in such times as these."

#### Herr Ballin has Iron Cross.

The well-known director of the Hamburg American line, Herr Ballin, has been decorated with the Iron Cross. Herr Ballin, since the war broke out, has placed his remarkable organizing talente at the disposition of the Government and has rendered great services.

#### Want to Know Why the English and French Forces did not Take the Offensive. A WASTED OPPORTUNITY.

THE RUSSIANS DISILLUSIONISED.

Praise is all Very Well but What is Wanted is Practical Help. Immobility of Forces in the West.

ROTTERDAM

By Aubrey Stanhope.

The emphasis with which it has been asserted, by the three principal speakers at the opening of the Duma, that Russia must fight to the bitter end, reveals the fact that the Russian government realises very fully the seriousness of the situation which has been brought about by the Military events of the past month, and just now culminating in the great drive of the forces of Nikotai Nikolaivitch in Poland and the Baltic provinces.

STOCKHOLM

The Russian people, up to now, has only suspected that the war was going badly for the Empire, because it was not allowed to know the truth. But now that the populations of Riga, Warsaw, Cholm, Lublin, Kowno, Grodno, Wilna are flocking to the capital in overwhelming numbers, arriving scores of overcrowded trainloads every day; the real condition of affairs can no longer be concealed. And so the good offices of the church are called in, and the Russian people are, by Imperial Ukase, ordered to unite and pray for victory.

#### Praise for Russia.

In the House of Commons, at Westminster, the English Premier pats the Russian ally on the back, tells him that Great Britain is fully appreciative of the gallant fight he is making. Here are the exact words used by Mr. Asquith: "We would be ungrateful aud insensitive indeed if we did not recognise, at this moment in particular, the gallant, the indescribably gallant, efforts which are being made by our Russian Allies to stem the tide of invasion and to maintain the inviolable integrity of their positions. (Cheers.) I do not think in the whole of military history there has been a more magnificent example before us of diciplined, patient endurance of both individual and collective endurance than by the Russian Army during the last eleven months." (Cheers.) And the British Prime Minister went on to tell how owing to the

The emphasis with which it has been aserted, by the three principal speakers at the pening of the Duma, that Russia must fight o the bitter end, reveals the fact that the

About the same time as the Russian message, so pointedly suggestive to the British government, the urgent necessity existing for an offensive movement in the West; in the House of Commons at Westminster, Sir Henry Dalziel was, in his most suave manner, putting the most awkward questions to the Ministry. He said, that the Prime Minister had declared that he thought the position in Flanders and in France perfectly satisfactory. He was a little surprised at that statement. He had supposed that this summer there was to be a great advance, and it would have been welcome to all the people of this country if that advance would have taken place at the moment when Russia needed help most, as we know that she helped us under other conditions at an early stage of the war. He should like an assurance from the government that the position as it was in France today and might be for some time was entirely unassociated with the provision of munitions of war?"

Sir Henry Dalziel was followed by Sir A. Markham, who in the course of his speech said that the whole offensive movement in France had broken down simply because the government had refused to order millions of shells offered, and had turned down offers of machine guns, which together had resulted in the deplorable conditions in which the English forces at present stood.

#### The Answer.

Those two exceedingly active members of Parliament undoubtedly give the solution to the question which the Russian government indirectly asks, "Why have you not taken the offensive at the moment when we gave you the opportunity?" And, undoubtedly, the Russians will never forget how, in this time of their need, they were left in the lurch by the lack of support by their allies. Russia is looking round for an excuse for her multiplied defeats and she finds an exceedingly good one to place before the great Russian people namely: "We were deserted by our allies!" Mr. Lloyd George, in his usual popular and flowery, if not distinguished, style of oratory, tells that the future will bring a prodigious supply of high explosive shells wherewith to annihilate the enemy, but that there are immense difficulties; firstly in finding the machinery necessary, and still more the men to work it. One hundred thousand men volunteered, but only a quarter of that number were fitting for the work. New buildings have to be erected, fresh organisations created, it will be many months before the supply of ammunition will be forthcoming and the great offensive intended by the English, and so much talked about, become possible. And, in the meanwhile, it is fair to suppose that the Russians will have been brought down to that point of which the Times military Correspondent wrote: "If Warsaw should fall, a resumption of a successful offensive on the part of the Russians would be indefinitely postponed." And today none doubts in the slightest that Warsaw is lost to Russia,-not even the Russians themselves.

## GOING INTO WARSAW

ZURICH

VIENNA

BERLIN

### By Colonel Edwin Emerson.

Colonel Emerson, one of the war correspondents of the *Washington Post*, who has just returned from the campaign before Warsaw, where he was with Field Marshal Hindenburg's armies, gives this account of the advance at the center immediately preceding the fall of Warsaw.

We were with the Ninth Army under the command of Prince Leopold of Bavaria. By "we" I mean a small party of newspaper men, among whom were Raymond Swing of the *Chicago News*, Xavier Bueno of the Madrid *A B C*, Goesta Torelius of the Stockholm *Dagblad*, Constantine Negruzzi of the *Roumanian*, J. R. Jensen of the Copenhagen *Politiken* and Major Schweitzer of the German General Staff.

Prince Leopold of Bavaria, to whose army we were assigned, was in the act of moving his headquarters from Lodz to Skierniewice when we joined him. In fact his whole army was moving eastward over all available roads towards Warsaw. Prince Leopold was in the best of spirits when we were presented to him, and so were all the officers of his staff.

#### A Bird's Eye View.

Everybody, indeed, was in the best of spirits, for they were all moving forward toward the desired goal. The jolliest of all were the young aviators, who were making daily flights over Warsaw, coming back with reports of the evacuation of that city by immense numbers of civilians and military fugitives. When we visited some of these officers at their aviation field, between Lodz and Warsaw, some of them were good enough to take us up, one at a time, in their aeroplanes. Thus we got a bird's eye glimpse of the general advance on Warsaw.

Every road leading eastward toward Warsaw was choked with German troops of all kinds. Later we were given the use of army automobiles and joined in the general movement toward Warsaw. We got as far as the German artillery positions before Blonye, some 20 kilometers west of Warsaw. When we reached this point the fight was in full progress, and the sky was full of bursting shrapnell. Just ahead of us the infantry of Prince Leopold's army was storming the Russian lines amid the crackle of rifle fire and the pop-pop-pop-pop of machine guns. While we were still there the big mortar batteries came up and got into position for bombarding the Warsaw forts. Later we followed the German advance as far as the Vistula, where Prussian pioneers under a heavy Russian artillery and infantry fire were throwing a pontoon bridge across the Vistula at Kamion opposite Vyszogrod. At the same time German motor boats, belonging to General von Wangenhausen's division, were scouting up and down the Vistula clearing the opposite bank by the well-directed fire of their machine guns. An Irresistible Advance. The thing that most impressed us all was the confident, indomitable spirit of the German troops straining forward over every available road and trail leading eastward. All appeared imbued with a feeling that nothing could stop them. Among all the thousands of soldiers whom we passed marching forward through the open country we never saw one limping behind. Throughout this advance I never saw one straggler. Even the horses of the cavalry, field artillery, and supply columns seemed to have caught the general spirit.

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1915.

devastation of crops in this region by the retreating Russians, but instead of such destruction I saw on all sides a wonderful harvest of rich crops being garnered in by the peasants with the help of German soldiers. Only in a few places, close to recently vacated Russian headquarters, had the crops been trampled down or otherwise destroyed close to the roadside, but no farther

#### Thorough Preparation.

We were likewise agreeably disappointed by the excellent condition of the highways and roads, especially those leading toward Warsaw. They had all been repaired by the German military engineers so that they were in first rate condition. Thus there is now a splendid macadamized highway running all the way from Kalish, on the German frontier, to Blonye, just in front of Warsaw,-better than any road I know of in Mexico or all Central America. I was told that the German military authorities within the last months had put no less than 30,000,000 marks into road and railroad repairs within this region immediately west Warsaw. Even during this last advance on Warsaw we saw thousands of German engineer troops, Polish peasants and Russian prisoners of war busily working on these roads with hundreds of steam rollers and street sprinklers.

This characteristic German thoroughness in the work of preparation, I think, had as much to do with the fall of Warsaw as the well-conceived strategy of Field Marshall Hindenburg's general plan, and the splendid spirit of all the various German and Austrian armies participating in the concentric advance. The wonderful flanking movements in the extreme north and south, of course, did the trick, together with the steady pressure at the centre which we witnessed.

When my companions and I turned our backs on Warsaw at Blonye the other day, we had all seen enough to realize that the fall of Warsaw could only be a matter of few days or hours.

## Bark to Go.

Petersburg, Aug. 5. Following upon the

London, Aug. 5. The *Daily Telegraph* states that German aeroplanists are showing particular activity on the flanks of the Russian army and do everything to prevent them setting up defensive works.

Very Active.

#### Plenty of Wheat.

**Bucharest**, Aug. 5. The wheat crop has been the heaviest in years. In consequence the Minister of the Interior has given facilities for export. A large portion of the crop will be taken by Germany.

#### Greeks Annoyed.

Athens, Aug. 5. Since the Greek nation has refused to throw in its lot with the Entente, its shipping has been perpetually harassed by France and England. Now Italy is pursuing the same methods. The shippers here are much annoyed at this useless form of persecution.

#### French Depressed.

**Cologne**, Aug. 5. People who have lately returned from France are unanimous in saying that the former spirit of optimism has disappeared and that the people are depressed and disheartened. It is stated that the last time President Poincaré went to the front, he was many time saluted with cries of: "Peace at any price!"

#### Goremykin III.

Petersburg, Aug. 5. On the eve of the opening of the Duma, the Premier Goremykin at the Ministerial Council had a fainting attack which lasted a long while. He was taken to the Ilagin Palace. Another attack took place during the night. At the first session of the Duma he was further troubled with twitching of the hand and legs.

#### Still another Try.

Vienna, Aug. 5. Prince Trobetzkoi who recently went to Bucharest on a mission from his government and suffered the indignity of being refused an audience with the King, is now ordered upon a similar mission to Sofia. There his chances are considered to be just as small as in Roumania. Bulgaria like Roumania, is pledged to strict neutrality.

#### Economy Theories.

London, Aug. 5. The following suggestions for economy are set forth, in the *Mail*, by Mr. Morgan, a prominent member of the Munitions Committee. No new buildings to be erected. Presents to be solely in the new war loan shares. Use of automobiles only for official or charity purposes. Invite no friends to the restaurant. Don't bother about the fashions. Don't use messengers. Don't treat others and don't drink anything stronger than water until the war is over. If Mr. Morgan ideas were to be carried out, many trades would suffer surely. However, the strictest economy is the order of the day in Great Britain. efficiency of her navy, England was fully supplied with food and the country comparatively comfortably situated. A Cry for Help.

But that is all gall and wormwood to the Russians, who are suffering in the severest manner, whose ports are closed, whose armies are being decimated, whose resources are being exhausted, and it is quite natural that a cry for help to her allies should be made. A telegram has been sent from the Russian government to France and England, in which she calls upon those countries for assistance in her moment of need. It is pointed out that whilst Russia is acting up to the words of the English Prime Minister and fighting a most gallant fight against the magnificently organised forces and splendid leadership of the Central Powers, the armies of England and France are remaining in a state of inertia, doing nothing, instead of adopting the natural course under the circumstances, a strong offensive. The Russian despatch, it is known, has been tampered with by the British censorship before being given out for publication to the English press, but even as it stands in its modified form, it reads as a terrible reproach to the allies of Russia, an accusation that, they have done nothing to assist the Muscovites in their time of necd.

#### The Suggestion.

That much censored despatch reads as follows:—"It would appear that the sending of strong German reinforcements from France to the Russian front, began in the fourth week of July, at the time when Mackensen's army was hard pushed in the Wierprz Tal and the fighting on the Narew had been continual. Every Russian success caused the enemy to draw fresh forces from the west front. That fact gave splendid opportunities for active operations upon the part of our allies."

That is just a part of the despatch sent from Petersburg to London. There is a great deal more of it, and there is the best reason to suppose the major portion of it is not published because it would not be pleasant reading to the English and French public. Undoubtedly that which is left out consists of reproaches and cirticisms at the extraordinary military attitude of France and England, in remaining inert and ineffective at a moment, when it must be fully evident to everyone, that a most active offensive was imperative. The Russian reproach, even that milder portion of it which the censorship has permitted to pass, is of the most caustic kind, and is all the more significant as coming atop of a series of attacks which have appeared lately in the Russian press

#### English Opinions.

London, Aug. 5. Apropos of the Russian situation in Poland; which is here generally considered as hopeless; the *Morning Post* says:—"Whilst Russia is being pressed in Poland, we stand on the defensive and allow the enemy to concentrate in the East. We cannot expect that later on the Russians will prevent a concentration of the Germans in the West. France is suffering terribly." The *Post* thinks that France will not listen to German proposals for peace.

The *Times*, referring to the Russian note, says that it is not the case that the German positions in the West have been weakened. What is needed is a closer understanding between the General Staffs of the Allies. Asquith should, in order to bring about a better sentiment, state what England is prepared to do in the war. He might thereby do something towards strenghtening his recent weak speech in the House of Commons. It appeals to the Premier to call Parliament together once more in view of the critical situation.

#### Crisis Approaching.

kind, and is all the more significant as coming atop of a series of attacks which have appeared lately in the Russian press against England specially, and France in a Another thing that impressed me was the contented spirit of the Polish peasants throughout this vast region between the Pilica and Vistula over which we passed. I had heard many distressing stories of the

masses upon the western front and there force a decisive issue, which not only will affect the French front, but the entire issue of the war.

#### "What is England Doing?"

Milan, Aug. 5. It may perhaps be hard upon the English to be criticised by their ally Italy, but here the sentiment is 'growing strong that Great Britain has not done her duty towards the allies, apparently thinking that payment of cash was all that was needed to bring succes. The Secolo publishes a six column article, headed "What is England Doing?" It begins by hurling back into England's teeth all the charges made by that country as to the inefficacy of the Italian military action, and wants to know what England herself is doing at this critical moment, thus standing idle instead of taking the offensive? England, it says, thinks that it is enough to supply money. The whole article is full of sarcasm concerning England and the English.

resignations of the Ministers of the Interior, War, Justice and the President of the Holy Synod; it is now the turn of the Minister of Finance to go. Minister Bark, whose position, owing to the trying financial circumstances, has long been very difficult, will, it is said, be given the Ministry of Commerce and Trade, a post which in the present times is well nigh a sinecure. His fall is owing to the failure of the last war loan.

#### Bullying France.

Cologne, Aug. 5. A Belgian traveller who just come back from France, repeats the story that has been heard so much of late, namely that the French are no longer masters in their own country. Very often the French themselves have to go to the English to obtain passes to travel in their own land. The cold egoism of the British is not understood by the Gauls who are full of abuse concerning the allies from over the channel.

#### Retaliation.

Hague, August 5. The French government has made a protest gainst the taking away and unprisonment by the Germans of some hundred and fifty citizens of Roubaix,-the French city now occupied. They were arrested upon the refusal of the city of Roubaix to pay a fine of 150,000 francs which the German government exacted in return for the destruction of the German consulate at Alexandretta by the French. The French government threatens, that if the said civilians are not released, it will have to take retaliatory measures.

#### NORWEGIAN WAR VIEW.

Thinks that Russian Troops are Demoralised. Nicoli Nicolaivitch Cornered.

Christiania, Aug. 4. The Military Correspondent of the Morgenbladet says :- "In view of the situation created by the advance of the Archduke Ferdinand and General Mackensen and their offensive movement on the Lublin-Cholm section, which has proved successful, it would be absolute folly on the part of Nicolai Nicolaivitch were he to hold to his first idea of a decisive engagement, in the position where his troops have now been forced. The danger of a catastrophe would be by far too great. All in all, the position of the Russians would appear to be in the highest degree difficult. The news that in July alone, 170,000 Russians were taken prisoners, is a sign that the demoralisation in their ranks is universal and this must regarded as of great military importance."

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Unin tekan

## THE CONTINENTAL TIMES. of minds clouded by the Dark Ages. Her The Continental Times WARSAW

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#### Russian Pertinacity.

The Russians are, by nature and habit, the most pertinacius race on the face of the world. That probably accounts for the announced visit of Prince Trubetzkoi to Sofia. Quite lately the Continental Times announced that Prince Tubetzkoi had been to Bucharest as diplomatic representative of the Emperor of all the Russias, and had speedily left, because the King refused to grant him an audience. Now the Prince is sent to try and cajole the other King Ferdinand. However Ferdinand of Bulgaria is one of the most astute of monarchs living, and he will probably give the Prince as short shrift as did his Royal Highness of Roumania. How long will it take, one asks, before Russians find out that "the game is up", and that there is not the slightest hope of either Bulgaria or Roumania being persuaded to commit a breach of that strict neutrality, to which both kingdoms have so wisely bound themselves?

#### Nobody Wants Peace Just Now!

Both the Russians and English are very insistent in their declarations that they have no intention of sueing for peace. That is doubtlessly quite true, and it is the same with the rest of the belligerents. To talk of peace is premature. But there are vast military operations being worked out in Poland and the Baltic Provinces, and they are being brought to a conclusion with as much rapidity as possible. All military writers agree that the sults of those immense enveloping movements will be of a decisive character and they equally unite in the opinion that they will not end favourably for Russia when they are complete and over. We may be perfectly sure that the world will see that the question of peace has come infinitely nearer than has been the case before. But even then there will be a big campaign in the West to be settled up before peace takes its place amongst the actualittes of the day. But nobody wants peace just now! Trouble for the Entente. There is trouble brewing for the Entente Powers, and all on account of little Servia. As everyone knows who has ever visited the realm of King Peter, the one great need of the Servian people is a harbor, a way out to the Adriatic, in order that they may be able at all times to get rid of their agricultural, mineral, and other produce. The idea of owning a seaport is most natural and has become one of the national aspirations close to the heart of every Servian. Once before' during the Balkan war, the Servians took possession of Durazzo, but were forced, to their utter disgust, to leave, in obedience of the summons of the joint powers. Now for the second time they occupy Durazzo and, for a considerable time Russia approved. But owing to the protests of the new ally, Italy, Russia now orders the Servians to quit the Albanian city. The Servians are furious. In the Sobranje they have howled "traitor" to Premier Paschitsch; known as the mouthpiece of the Muscovites, and called upon him to resign when he tried to explain what Russian policy in the Durazzo matter was. Moreover England has suggested that the Servian districts of Monastir and Ochrida should be given over to Bulgaria, as an inducement to that country to give her assistance in the ill-fated Dardanelles expedition. Such a proposition is indignantly refused by the Servians, who now begin to see that, after all, it might be that their interests might best be protected by a change of policy, and the casting in of their lot with the Central Powers. If such should come to pass, it would very much alter the outlook for the Entente Powers as regards the war.

Its Historical Meaning? by R. L. Orchelle.

The Fall of Warsaw is more than the capture of Poland's capital by the victorious legions of the Central Powers. Not by the size of the city, nor by the numbers of prisoners made, nor the extent of the booty captured is the momentous significance of this event to be measured.

The conquerors, whose triumphant hands rest upon the glittering prize, announce in baldest terms: "The city was occupied this morning by our troops." The politician weighs the fall of the city upon the delicate and invisible balances of international diplomacy. To the soldier it is a precious castle in the enormous game of chess being played by millions upon the Polish plains.

But the full, the deeper, the innermost meaning of Warsaw's fall will reveal itself only to the eye or the imagination of the historian with a planetary sense of time and space and the souls of nations."

Some such seer with profoundly-piercing eyes and far-reaching vision, is sure to arise and give an eternal form and "substance to this event.

Some poet may see it in its majestic aspect, as the symbol of supra-human, elemental forces, as an expression of the Time Spirit, a gigantic monument set along the path mankind must follow until the earth become a wandering tomb as cold and sterile as any pathetic ruin in this tempest of the nations

The Great War is a dreadful, awe-inspiring breach in human history-perhaps, a yawning gulf. But Warsaw is a turning on the universal road. Historians in days to come shall write again and again, until they become a hackneyed phrase, these words: "dating from the Fall of Warsaw."

The Burning of Moscow, for all its flames, shall be cast into the shade.

The Fall of Paris gave a unity and a name to the German Empire,-the Fall of Warsaw. let us hope, may in time give a unity and a common purpose to all Europe and therefore to all the world.

It is a common fallacy to think of states, or to speak of them as individuals, as personalities. They are symbolized as womenwe speak of a nation as "she" and attribute to "her" all manner of human qualities. But that is an error of which this war ought to have cured us-even if our reading of history has not.

Seven men can easily overcome three menso seven nations would surely overcome three nations? But modern nations are not human

blood brought religious liberty unto the world. Her great philosophers liberated the human intelligence, and established a new harmony in the realms of thought. And her great social students have shown how the deep economic diseases of the modern world may be healed.

To-day she is battling for the noblest ideals and the most priceless possessions of humanity-for the liberty of a great people to grow, for the right to peace and security, for the freedom of the "salt, unplumbed, estranging sea" which no nation shall ever again presume to "rule."

But more than that, Germany, armed with the modern spirit, is establishing in the world the State of the future. She has solved the grievous problem of this age of machines and multitudes. A new civilization of science, sanity, and human harmony is given unto the world. For organisation is but another name for harmony.

The Fall of Warsaw is the Rise of the New Era. And could the Russian people see beyond the stark event, even they might behold in its greyness only the greyness of the dawn.

## VIRIBUS UNITIS.

News from Austria-Hungary, **Old-fashioned Russian Tactics.** 

Shortly before the capture of Lemberg when the Russians saw that its fall was inevitable, they issued the following outrageous proclamation. "All inhabitants of this district are ordered to leave. All wagons, farming implements and in particular all provisions, bread, corn

and flour, which cannot be transported, are to be burnt or otherwise destroyed. Horses and cattle must be taken along.

The Mayor of each town, who has a register of all the inhabitants, will give out the date of departure. Those who do not leave willingly will be forcibly removed. Anyone acting contrary to these instructions will be severely punished."

This order, it may be seen, applies not only to Russian inhabitants of Russian territory, but also to Austrian citizens and their private property. It is an offence against international law to interfere with the private property of the peaceful inhabitants of a beleagured district, but the Russians apparently believe, blind to the possibilities of modern means of transport, that these tactics of burning and wholsale destruction will conquer us as they conquered the French a hundred years ago.

#### Italian Belirium.

From Vienna comes the news of a mysterious Italian carouse. On Monte Abanza the enemy shouted and sang the whole night of the 27th of July. They shot salvos into the

## TURNING POINT OF THE WAR.

Warsaw and Iwangorod Fall. Collapse of the Russian Forces in all Directions.

## SIGNIFICANT VICTORY.

Not a Strategic Retreat.

The Muscovites are Badly Defeated. To Retreat upon Moscow.

"Warsaw and Iwangorod fallen!" Such was the double-barelled budget of good news announced yesterday afternoon, news which sent a thrill of profound pleasure and joy all through Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey. In a trice the Capital was gaily decked, bells were rung, the people gathered in crowds, and there developed all those signs of national enthusiasm which were so constant just about this time a year ago.

#### Its Importance.

Warsaw fallen! Warsaw the capital of Poland, Warsaw the third largest city of Russia. Warsaw, the great strategical centre of a network of fortresses, which will now all fall like a pack of cards; Warsaw the great railroad centre, where six separate main lines converge; a city the historic capital of Poland; a town twice the size of Dresden and almost as large as Hamburg!

But above all, the fall of Warsaw means the end, for an unlimited period, of the offensive military possibilities on the part of Russia. On that point all military experts are unanimous. It indicates that, before very long, large forces of the Central Powers will be at disposition for other parts, for the western front where the allies are already openly discounting impending defeat. It signifies that we have made a great big step nearer the end of the war.

#### The Victor.

Warsaw was taken by the army of Prince Leopold of Bavaria, the brother of the king and son-in-law of the Emperor of Austria. King Leopold, on hearing the news, at once decorated his brother with the Grand Cross of the Military Order of Max-Josef.

Undoubtedly the Russians will seek to present their defeat in the light of a strategical retreat. The fact that they must have lost probably five army corps all told, since the enveloping movement commenced, is quite sufficient reply to such foolish efforts to mislead the world as to the nature of the most severe defeat and humiliation that has struck the armies of Nikolai Nikolaivitch. Inestimably valuable strategic positions have been lost, the Russians are crippied and badly beaten. They are being pursued in all directions.

On the Narew hard fighting continues but

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1915

## The Open Tribune. To our Readers.

We shall be glad to publish any communication from our readers, but must ask contributors to attach name and address to their letters. These will be published anonymously, if so desired.

#### An American Lawyer's Letter. To the Editor.

I wish to congratulate you and Mr. R. L. Orchelle on his magnificent article, "The Finger of Fate" in your issue of July 26, 1915. It says in plain true language what every real American, who is not a reader of the N. Y. Herald and other such sheets must feel. As Asst. Counsel in the trial of Inspector Lundberg, for negligence in inspecting the s. s. Gen. Slocum, I got an insight into the method employed by the US. government in inspecting the safety of the ship upon which thousands of "women and children" were murdered. The Inspector had 2 hours to examine 2500 life belts and other safety appliances! Of course the people who used these vessels were not Vanderbilts and so no one except their relatives and friends got excited about the matter, but it is things like these that seem to damn the logic of those

at the head of our Government. So here's more power to the good right hand of Mr. Orchelle and the Continental Times.

Cronberg i. T. An American Lawyer.

#### A Deserving Charity.

To the Editor of "The Continental Times": May I call the attention of your readers to the "Erstes Deutsches Krieger - Waisenheim" of Oberammergau? At this Home, children whose fathers have laid down their lives for Germany in the present war, will be cared for. The younger ones will be sent to the local "Kindergarten", the older ones to the "Volksschule". Both are excellent schools. Individual cases which seem to warrant it may, it is hoped, be sent to the Oberammergau Schnitzschule, which stands very high, or to the celebrated "Gymnasium" at Ettal. The girls will receive a thorough training in cooking and in dressmaking, millinery, or some useful calling. It is intended to develop each child into a selfsupporting, honest, useful citizen.

The village of Oberammergau has given the land, a beautiful site, high and dry, where on three sides, the buildings will be protected from the winds by woods, while they will get plenty of sun on the south side. It is a delightful neighborhood, quiet, and free from dust.

#### A Stupendous Harvest.

Copenhagen, Aug. 5. It appears that Roumania has been blessed this year with a stupendous harvest and, as Germany is the only country that can purchase it, it would very willingly place a great portion of it in the hands of that customer. But whether it is that the Germans have all their railroad trucks in the war, or from other causes, there are no trucks at disposal. The Roumanians are in a quandary as to what to do.

entities-but human expressions. They are organisms, it is true, but primarily they are forces.

They are tendencies, embodiments, manifestations of powers more terrific than the iron craters of great siege guns or the trampling of legions that shake the earththat poor old earth of ours that is made over and over again-as willed by Destiny the Demi-urge!

The darkness came from the East-night and destruction. But the dawn has come up from the West. The grey, brutal flood of the barbarians has been hurled back into the lowering twilight from which it came, back to that murk of the Middle Ages, pierced by the wails of superstition, the glint of ikons, the rattle of chains, the whirr of the steeltipped knout.

Europe has been delivered, as even they may one day see-they, the nations blind with fear and hate, who less than a year ago, were rejoicing over the prospect of this black and eyeless colossus trampling into a red mire the works and happiness of the most civilized, the most orderly, the most peaceful of all peoples.

The battle of Germany against Russia is the battle of Modernity against Mediævalism. It is the battle of Form against Chaos, of Harmony against Discord, of Enlightment against Ignorance. It is the vindication of Science in the face of Superstition, the victory of Spirit over Matter.

By all the laws of energy, by all the brute force of numbers, and the operation of tremendous auxiliary factors, the Moscovite should have triumphed over the Teuton in this clash. But the invisible forces, the majestic dynamics of moral laws were against the great Caliban, and these have prevailed-as they shall prevail against his Allies.

The Fall of Warsaw, seen in its historical perspective, assumes even to our dazzled and feeble eyes a monumental significance. With it falls much that is old and decayed in our civilisation. Germany's victory is one with the victory of the New over the Old.

To those seers, those prophets or philosophers of whom I have spoken, all will be made plain in the days to come. The great tree Yggdrasil will be seen, complete with roots and fruits in the soil of Time. But even today we lesser men who know the significance of modern Germany, and perhaps even her desperate and deluded enemies, may perceive the glimmering spiritual outlines of this world-event.

Germany has once more led the way as the liberator and enlightener of the world, a way hewn by the sword through the gigantic hulk of the Land enamoured of Night. Her leaden types delivered Europe from the curse is a war of revelations and surprises!

air, and yelled incessantly "All Austrians are pigs!" Our people were under the impression that the Italians were all drunk. It seems likely, however, that they were only drunk with enthusiasm, which with people of Southern' temperament expresses itself in such a strange manner. One may designate this phenomenon as a "non-alcoholic delirium" if one may give credit to the excited expressions of Italians publicists, who indicate that it is untrue that the Italian prisoners were intoxicated at the time of their capture by the Austrians.

#### Coal from Russia.

In order to counteract the high prices of coal in Vienna, quantities of fine house-coal are being brought from Russian Poland to the capital. Forty to fifty wagons come in daily. We hear from Budapest that the rebuilding of those Carpathian districts which were over-run by the Russians is already under way. The inhabitants, the greater part of whom are Ruthenians, but who also compromise Slovak and Roumanian elements, have been subjected for years to Pan-Russian propaganda. But they have remained faithful to the dynasty. Hungarians now feel it to be be more than their duty to restore as speedily as may be the flourishing life and prosperity of these communities, so ruthlessly destroyed by the Russians.

#### Like Father, Like Son.

One of the oldest officers to battle for the second time against Italy, is Major of Landwehr Josef Mayer. In 1865 he left school as a youth of fifteen, and became a cadet. At the battle of Custozzo he received a special written commendation of his valor. In 1915 the volunteered for the field, and has since been promoted to major. He has three sons in the field, all volunteers, the eldest of whom has already received the bronze medal for bravery.

#### A Financial Surprise.

It is no news to hear fron the lips of the Prussian Minister of Finance, that Germany when the war broke out, was found to be exceedingly well-organised as regards her monetary requirements and that all the cash needed for the war has been readily found But what will come as a great surprise to many people is to hear, from the same unexceptional source, that the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, popularly reckoned to be impecunious, has shown greater financial resources during the existing war than Francethe country reputedly so wealthy. For long time loans, the Dual Monarchy found five times as much cash as France. In truth, this the Russians are out manoeuvred. Not yet but soon.

#### It was likewise reported, during the afternoon, that Kowno had fallen, but the news was not confirmed. The capture of that important fortress may be heard of at any moment.

The Germans have large forces gathered in the Baltic provinces and their many cavalry divisions are keeping the Russians on the run. At Mitau General von Below is making his preparations for the capture of Riga, in which the fleet will cooperate. With Riga lost, Russia will be in a very serious state, more than ever cut off from the outer world. Her isolation is already very embarassing to her.

#### A Hallucination.

The Russians evidently contemplate a retreat upon Moscow and hope to decoy the united armies into following them, having the strange hallucination firmly fixed in their minds, that they could repeat the events of 1812, a military feat which would be quite impossible in these days.

#### Energetic Italians.

The Italians continue displaying excessive energy in wasting their forces in futile assaults and are, all the while, beaten with a mathematical regularity which must needs have a saddening and depressing effect upon their ardant temperaments.' Their latest, attempts have been on the Tirol front, where once more they have been beaten back with heavy losses.

In the West, all is quiet.

#### RULERS OF THE SEAS. By Kory Towska.

Glittering with power and throned in the light, Terrific the battleship basks in its might, With turrets that soar, with black tempests

for breath, With iron throats and the thunder of death.

Deep down in the darkness where sea-sedges drip,

Its enemy creeps,-more a fish than a ship, Dumb, almost blind, past all glimmer of day-Colorless, stark, a mere phantom of grey.

The pygmy heaves silently up through the murk.

And stirs and prepares for his terrible work,-The flash of a bolt and the crash of a blow. The titan is broken-the giant laid low.

Above is the Phrase that vain Plaudits surround, Below is the Labour with victory crowned; Above is the Gesture, the Boast and the Screed; Below the Reality, Thought and the Deed!

Funds sufficient to build and equip the necessary buildings have been raised, but the Committee feels that an income large enough to meet the maintenance charges of the Home should be assured before work on the site is begun.

This is a noble work, and all who possibly can should assist the men and women who have so unselfishly undertaken it.

The Committee asks especially for subscriptions to the Income Fund. Those preferring to do so may subscribe a lump sum, or may pledge so much a year. Some friends of the Home have promised to contribute annually whatever may be necessary for the support of one child. One man has promised to support two children, another one five children.

Oberammergau is surely an ideal place in which to found an Orphans' Home, as the climate is unusually healthful, and the moral atmosphere uplifting, and it is to be hoped that such an appeal in such a cause will meet with a generous response.

Subscriptions may be sent to Anton Lang, Treasurer, Oberammergau.

Konrad Strasse 4, Munich. G T. Williams.

#### THE "U" BOAT CALENDER.

London, Aug. 4. Of the 11 of the crew of the Clintonia lost all were either English or Indians.

The English steamer Ranza, 2320 tons, has been sunk. Nine of the crew were rescued by the Dutch steamer Wilhelm V.

It is stated that the new submarine boats being built at Bridgeport, Conn., for the United States navy will have an action radius of 6,000 knots. The boat is worked by means of a Swiss Sulzer-Diesel motor.

#### German Ship Sunk.

From Petersburg it is announced that a German transport ship has been sunk by a British submarine in the Baltic Sea. From German source it is stated that the sunken ship was a hived boat.

The Nouvelliste of Lyons announces that the English ships Nugget and Turquoise have been sunk off the Scilly Isles.

Lloyds announces that the steamer Koophandel has been sunk. Nine men of the crew were saved.

An inquiry made by the American Consul at Queenstown results in the finding that the captain of the Iberian; in which ship some Americans were killed; refused to obey the summons of the submarine to stop and that therefore he is responsible for all that happened.

The English steamers Costello and Portic have been sunk.

No. 1158. Vol. XXII. No. 16.

## BRITISH MILITARISM. A REPLY TO ROBERT BLATCHFORD.

It would be difficult to find two Englishmen of tendencies more opposed than C. H. Norman and Robert Blatchford. Yet at one time they may have met upon common ground.

The name of C. H. Norman, already bright wherever the greater issues of humanity and the welfare of his countrymen were concerned, has received an additional lustre through his courage, his absolutely heroic moral courage, in this war. His fame has spread over Europe, as it shall spread over history.

But who is Robert Blatchford? The man was a common soldier in the English army, a dignified post to that which he now occupies. Later he became editor of the 'Clarion", a Socialist organ, now largely discredited. His vehemence, crude frankness and open freethought became unpleasant, if not dangerous, to the commercial-and ecclesiastical-interests of England. So it was decided to render him harmless by that method which England has found so invariably successful with low-class men and low-class nations. Lord Northcliffe, defender and "agent provocateur" of England's commercial class, was the tempter, the bribe a fat salary to write for the "Daily Mail."

The dirty work to be done was to consist in a series of articles attacking Germany. Blatchford was to help poison the one great body of Englishmen still uncontaminated by Teutophobia-the workingclass with which he was supposed to have some influence. He was sent to Berlin. Ignorant of the land, the language, the people and its history, he nevertheless wrote home reports that presented Germany in the light of an assassin in hiding, waiting to pounce upon an innocent Britain, strike it to the heart, rob it of its treasures and place every Englishman in chains. In Berlin the man came under the baneful influence of one fully as corrupt if more adroit than himself-William F. Wile whose horrible boast it was that he had worked deliberately to involve the two nations in hatreds, misunderstandings and in war. These men are the tools of their master Alfred Harmsworth, - Lord Northcliffe by purchased title, and they are pernicious and unscrupulous tools. Since the war they have missed no opportunity to deluge Germany with torrents of abuse-until it appears as though they sought desperately to hide their very guilt in overheaping it with f urther guilt and falsehood.

Such is Robert Blatchford and such is the work of the man whom Mr. Norman in his admirable etter holds up to a well-merited obloquy. R.L.O.

INTRODUCTION.

The main body of this pamphlet, appearing originally in the form of an "Open Letter to Mr. Robert Blatchford," was published in The New Age of 10th December, 1914. I must express my thanks to Mr. Orage, the editor of that journal, for his courage in publishing it. It was provoked by a series of attacks in

the Weekly Dispatch by Mr. Robert Blatchford upon those Socialists and Liberals in Britain who have been opposing the British war party. As a part of that opposition, it has been necessary to make a stand against the organised falsification which would represent German militarism as the sole cause of all the crimes of the world. In pursuance of that object, Mr. Robert Blatchford, in the Weekly Dispatch of November 29, 1914, asked the following questions: "Can one imagine General French or Admiral Jellicoe indulging in the vulgar bombast and silly boasting with which Von Hindenburg has just been favouring America and Europe? Has any enemy ever accused British soldiers of cutting off women's breasts and babies' hands?" What evidence is there that the Germans have committed these crimes? The Belgian children with the mutilated hands have proved as mythical as the Russians in Britain. The same remark applies to the "cutting off of breasts" fabrication. "Had Louvain been a German town captured by British troops, would Louvain have been burned or its people murdered? Would Germany in the place of Britain have granted self-government to South Africa after the Boer War? Would any British general have written such a book as that of Von Bernhardi, and what would the British public have said to him if he had? Have Britons ever spoken contemptuously of the German Army, or sneered at the German people as a cowardly and decadent race?" Mr. Robert Blatchford, certainly, as a representative Jingo journalist, has been doing nothing else but libel the German Kaiser, the German Army, the German Navy, the German people, and the German literature. Enough has been stated to indicate the character of the article which called forth my strictures. In my judgment, all forms of militarism are atrocious. It is possible that the German methods may be harsher than those of other countries, in that they are more systematic; but that is the only distinction between German militarism and other kinds of militarism. It is so trifling that it is hardly worth while specially denouncing German militarism while remaining silent concerning the fearful evils that flow from every<sup>1</sup>) kind of militarism. It is a fact, I believe, that venereal diseases, a most terrible blot upon civilised progress, are far more rampant in military life than in civil life. This is a universal truth, the reason being that militarism, the degradation of men, and prostitution, the degradation of women, flourish side by side. One has only to read a book like "The Queen's Daughters in India" to understand, once and for all, the vileness of militarism in its moral aspect. In this war, my position is simply that I am on the side of the British people, not on the side of the British ruling classes, who have plunged this country into the most fearful and useless conflict that Britain ever embarked upon. I am not pro-German, pro-Russian, pro-French, pro-Belgian; but 'I am pro-English in the sense that I know no reason why the British workers should be slaughtered in the interests of Russia and France, two countries which attempted to induce Germany to join in a combination in 1901 to destroy Great Britain while engaged in the Boer War. It was to the credit of the Kaiser that he rejected those proposals. As Mr. Bonar Law wrote in his letter of 2nd August, 1914, which he carefully suppressed until the following December, Russia and France are the countries Britain is supporting-not Belgium. There was not a word about Belgium in his letter.

Did the British naval and military authorities take any precautions to prevent the killing of the Belgian inhabitants of Ostend? It is not easy to remember, nowadays, that the violation of Belgian houses is done as efficaciously by British bombs as German air bombs would blow up British houses.

The only people in Britain who will benefit from the war are the shipping rings, the armament contractors, the food and coal combinations, and all the other robbers, for whom patriotism does not exist. Patriotism is for the "lower classes," who are being asked to sacrifice uncomplainingly all their hard-won barriers against exploitation and injustice. Is there no limit to what is to be demanded from the working classes?

And what about the war loans and commissions? Listen to Mr. John Bright, speaking in 1858 words which ring as true today as they rang then: "The more you examine this matter, the more you will come to the conclusion which I have arrived at, that this foreign policy, this regard for 'the liberties of Europe,' this care at one time for 'the Protestant interests,' this excessive love for 'the balance of power'" (and the "neutrality of Belgium") "is neither more nor less than a gigantic system of outdoor relief for the aristocracy of Great Britain."1)

The interest upon war loans is one of the most lucrative sources of revenue for the ruling classes, as it mortgages the industry of the people for years and years ahead.

•On the 26th January, 1864, Mr. John Bright laid down a principle which is, in my judgment, absolutely sound: "I will say, further, that if there be a Government possible in our day that will plunge this country into war under the pretence of maintaining the balance of power in Europe and sustaining any kingdom there, be it little or great, I say that Government not only is not worthy of the confidence of the people of England, but deserves our execration and abhorrence." Those are words which should be written in red letters over the portals of the House of Commons as a permanent maxim to guide the conduct of the representatives of the people. Great Britain is being ruined by an oligarchy of reactionary politicians, who are imbued with the spirit of militarism, and are prepared to slaughter their countrymen to any extent, so that the war may be "fought to a finish": which merely means that their policy may be saved from discredit. Not content with advising Belgium to her ruin, the Asquith-Grey combination is proceeding upon a financial course which can only be described as criminal in its folly. The purchasing power of a sovereign has been reduced to 16s. in five months, which means that the British financial and capitalist classes have been enabled already to levy from the British wage-earners four times the amount levied by Germany upon the cities and territories of Belgium. One is expected to remain silent in this state of things because of the alleged unanimity on the "justice" of the war; but on that subject one may as well cite these comments of Mr. W. E. Gladstone on the political wisdom of the British ruling classes: "In almost every one, if not every one, of the greatest political controversies of the last fifty years, whether they affected religion, whether they affected the bad and abominable institution of slavery, or whatever subject they touched, these leisured classes, these educated classes, these titled classes, have been in the wrong." And history is repeating itself!

# THE CONTINENTAL TIMES.

1914, you invite the consideration of your readers to certain questions. The first three of those I must ignore, as they assume the truth of the wild allegations of the proven liars employed by the man in whose service you are at present.

The fourth concerns the destruction of Louvain. As British militarists in this war have not had much opportunity of desecration, that outrage cannot be paralleled in Europe, except by reference to the records of the Napoleonic wars; but the following proclamation was one of many issued in South Africa in 1900:-

"V. R.-PUBLIC NOTICE.

It is hereby notified for information that unless the men at present on commando belonging to families in the town and district of Krugersdorp surrender themselves and hand in their arms to the Imperial authorities by July 20, the whole of their property will be confiscated and their families turned out destitute and homeless.-By Order,

G. M. M. Ritchie, Capt., K. Horse."1) Nothing approaching the terms of that document has been published yet as having been issued by the Germans as a means of compelling their enemies to surrender.

The second sample of British militarism is in Egypt (during perfect peace), in 1906. It is an account of some executions of some men whose sole crime was that they were defending their sacred pigeons from the guns of some British officers: "On a cross solidly constructed at fifteen paces from the gibbet they are preparing the punishment of flagellation. The first sufferer strips to the waist, passes his head in the iron collar, and on his bare torso the kurbash descends rhythmically to the sound of the voice that counts the blows; the bronze skin tumefies, splits in places, the blood spurts out; it is sickening, horrible. A second man who succeeds him cries out still more desperately; the third one is literally contorted under the lash; he loses consciousness. Meanwhile the man hanged has given up the ghost. The second condemned follows with the same assured step as his predecessor. The executions continue. The floggings go remorselessly on; the new ropes redden as they lash into the flesh. Yusef Huseyn's legs, in the hanging, are broken. Mohammed Gorbashi is undressed, crucified, and flogged fifty lashes. He gets maddened on receiving the twelfth. His voice is not well heard, for a soldier is ordered to press his head down in the opening of the cross again. While Mohammed Dervish Yohran is hanged, the executioner puts the rope round his neck and administers it wrongly. The condemned man is not strangled well, so he cries out able." With all your snivelling about on the cruelty of the world."2) The British Government ordered that the relatives of those punished in this way should be compelled o witness the spectacle, and they were brought up under armed escort. Sir E. Grey approved these proceedings, and you, Robert Blatchford, did not avail yourself of an opportunity to sign the petition for clemency on behalf of the man (with others), who was sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude for protecting his wife, who had been wounded by British shots. Have you ever read Mr. Winston Churchill's comments on Lord Kitchener's methods in the Soudan, in "The River War"?: "The Mahdi's tomb had been for more than ten years the most sacred and holy thing that the people of the Soudan knew. Their miserable lives had perhaps been brightened, perhaps in some way ennobled, by the contemplation of something which they did not quite understand, but which they believed exerted a protecting influence. By Sir H. Kitchener's orders the tomb has been profaned and razed to the ground. The corpse of the Madhi was dug up. The head was separated from the body; the limbs and trunk were flung into the Nile. Such was the chivalry of the conquerors."3) That incident remains to be paralleled by the "Huns". Have you ever studied Mr. Birrell's pamphlet issued during the Boer War on "A Holocaust of Babes"? Do you remember that Field-Marshal Sir N. Chamberlain and Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman denounced the methods of warfare in South Africa as "the methods of barbarism"? I recollect that you were as anti-Kruger as you are anti-Kaiser. Then you told us that 'Kruger intended to conquer the world.' To-day it is the Kaiser. What does accuracy matter, so long as Robert Blatchford has an excuse for receiving patronage from Lord Northcliffe, the slanderer of Socialism and Socialists? The Daily News, August 16, 1906. printed a letter from a British officer to his mother, recording the progress of events in the campaign against the Zulu chief, Bambaata. That was a mercenary war to seize those poor wretches' lands: "About nine o'clock a.m., Mudhlogozulu, the paramount chief,

In the Weekly Dispatch of November 29, approached, carrying a white flag. Some two or three hundred accompanied him. He arrived a few yards in front of a sergeant, and explained that he wanted to give in. The reply, of course, was a bullet that must have sent his brains some fifty yards off. His followers, who were now far too terrorised to use their weapons, stood back in a mass and shrieked for mercy. Mercy came quicker than expected-in the shape of a Maxim. What a sight! The whole bundle dropped lifeless in less than a minute. Several women were among the slain, as well as a lot of young boys. . . . The general way of dispatching the prisoners is to take them out of camp and tell them to run away into the bush. They only get about twenty yards or so when a bullet reaches them, and, of course, it is "Good-bye, John," for them. A faithful Kaffir was looking about the fallen, when he found Bambaata, and at once took steps to have his head brought into camp for identification. Well, the first thing the doctor ordered was to have the matter kept secret, and also to have it stuffed at once.

. . . We carried the head with us for about a week, then it was dissected, and the skull will probably be made into a nice tobacco jar for someone, Curiously enough, I was never in better health, and altogether the food is splendid. In fact, I think it is the finest picnic I have ever been at." Do you agree with that British officer, Robert Blatchford? Need one ask? Of course, you do! But is it surprising that men more English than yourself, with your singularly mixed ancestry, do resent the brutalisation of their countrymen which is created by all the circumstances of war? That young officer may at one time have been a decent British gentleman, until he came under the pernicious influence of the Bernhardi school (British variety) to which you belong in spirit, though, as a Harmsworth journalist, you storm against it.

Did you ever read an account of that notable triumph of British arms when the Union Jack was carried through Tibet to Lhassa-how the Tibetans came on, armed with bows and arrows, against Maxim guns, in defence of their country, and were mowed down by the thousand? Just reflect, too, upon the meaning of this circular memorandum, issued by authority of the late Lord Roberts, whose shocking cruelties in Afghanistan moved even Mr. G. R. Sims ("Dagonet" of the Referee) to indignant denunciation: "In the regimental bazaars (brothels) it is necessary to have a sufficient number of women, to ake care hat they are sufficiently attractive, to provide them with proper houses, and, above all, to insist upon means of ablution being always avail-"women and children," have you ever studied a book called "The Queen's Daughters in India,"1) from which the above extract is taken? Have you ever inquired what means are taken to secure attractive girls to supply the sexual needs of the British Army in India? There you will see the chivalry of British militarism! You mouth and rave about "patriotism" and "pro-Germans." What do you know of patriotism? The patriotism that glosses and excuses the abominations herein set out is that which destroys a nation. Do you want Britain to become a mere name like Tyre, Babylon, Rome, Egypt, and Greece? That is the Nemesis of patriotism such as yours. You talk of retribution-a dangerous argument! Is Belgium suffering now as a punishment for her massacres of the Congo natives?2) Are the Boer rebels in arms as a retribution upon Britain? Is France being overrun as a retribution for the crimes of French Imperialism? Are the disloyalty and disaffection in Egypt and Ireland a retribution for the crimes committed by Britain in those countries? "The Future Peace of the Anglo-Saxons," by Major Stewart Murray, is as bombastic and as militaristic a book as Von Bernhardi ever wrote. Your own articles are more damnatory of the good faith of Britain than the ravings of Maximilian Harden or any other fire-eating German Blatchford. Most impudent of all, you shriek, "Would Germany have granted self-government to South Africa?" "Would Germany have conferred Home Rule on Ireland?" It was one of the terms of surrender by the Boers that self-government would be granted; but the British militarists would never have kept that undertaking but for the insistence of Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, the "Chadband" who denounced the South African campaign in speech after speech, to your furious in-

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1015.

dignation. The British militarists have steadily opposed the granting of Home Rule to Ireland, and were about to foment a rebellion against the Home Rule Act when war broke out. Germany has not such a strong anti-militarist party as Britain had, because her geographical situation is different, and her political development has been hampered by many local causes. The curse of Germany has been the ravings of her Robert Blatchfords; but Britain can no longer pretend to be free from the detestable manifestations of militarism in the month when a man has been executed in Britain without a trial by jury for the first time since 1745; and when Lord Halsbury and Lord Loreburn had to combine in an appeal to the Liberal leader in the House of Lords that no British civilian shall be put to death by order of court-martial without the sanction of Parliament! The British people have lost the liberties won by centuries of toil in a few months, and you, Robert Blatchford, are one of the guilty in that felon work against your countrymen.

The freedom that Britons had was not won by you and your like. Those who struggled in the past for British liberty were the "Chadbands", not the militarists. What officer or general in the British Army ever added a word to those charters under which British liberties in the past have been guaranteed? Who fought at the Battle of Peterloo? Who destroyed the peasant leaders who strove against the tyranny of British militarism in the time of Pitt? Who crushed the Chartist movement? Who massacred the followers of Monmouth? Who ruined and corrupted Ireland? Who massacred the Egyptian Nationalist Party at the bombardment of Alexandria? Who shot down railwaymen at Llanelly? Who seized the territories of Oudh? Who murdered peaceful citizens at Liverpool and in Dublin? Why, the British militarist party! Who has endeavoured by striving to see that eventual justice is done to modify the political consequence of those crimes? Not the British military party, but the "Chadbands," whose faith in principles of justice is such that they keep alive, at whatever cost to themselves, the conscience of the country.

You proclaim your "patriotism," but in practice you hire yourself out to a renegade Irishman like Lord Northcliffe, who daily belittles his countrymen and the country of his birth in his pestilential journals.

You were fully aware that the railway workers, the transport workers, and the miners were preparing for a tremendous struggle with the British shareholding class; that Ireland was seething with unrest; and that serious events were impending in Britain. It was just the occasion the British ruling class would choose for plunging Western Europe into the horrors of war. The documents published by the French Government are eloquent in their testimony of the social unrest in Europe as being a principal element in the catastrophe which has overtaken the working class. Did you warn them? Never! But you misled them upon every point in international affairs, wherein their lack of information was at the mercy of your erroneous counsel. Nor is it a pleasant sight to observe a man of your record telling others to imperil their lives, while you shriek for vengeance against helpless non-combatants, unarmed and ruined by the mischance of war. Claiming the sanctity of "scraps of paper" at one moment, the next second you are demanding the tearing up of those "scraps of paper," known as naturalisation certificates. You should really endeavour to hide your innate Germanism, as these displays are somewhat contemptible. The inciter in safety, with the big battalions temporarily upon his side, is like the hidden assassin behind the arras. You cry, "More recruits!" and belabour the laggards who are rightly reluctant to protect you and your like, as your victory would be more terrifying than a German success. The war against "German militarism" has failed; for you and your like have established German militarism in these islands, though, fortunately, the day of reckoning will come. No one knows better than you that superiority of numbers makes the defeat of the British Fleet an impossibility; but you have joined the Blue Funk School, so as to persuade Britons that, in dying for France, a country whose race, traditions, and history have no common feature with Britain, Britons are protecting their own homes. It is nasty work, Robert Blatchford! You boast that you foresaw this war! It would be truer to assert that you inflamed the passions of men until the war atmosphere was created. Bathe in your bath of blood, but do not be so proud that you were one. of those who had turned on the tap! You have challenged your fellow-Socialists upon grave issues of public policy. The writing of this letter and the restatement of these painful historical facts were not of my seeking; I trust that you will be satisfied with the retort that one of those who respected you in bygone days has thought right to make upon your despicable campaign.

British warships have been recently engaged in bombarding Ostend, an unfortified Belgian town, and the "greatest air raid" has been directed against that same Belgian town.

1) See The Shield, special issue for Febrary, 1915, on "The Problem of the Camps."

With these introductory remarks in response to several requests, I reissue this little contribution to the literature of the "War Against Militarism."

April, 1915. C. H. Normen.

Sir,-Those of us who have recognised that your past services to the cause of Socialism in Britain have been of some value have refrained on that account from criticising your present incendiary writings; but to remain silent under the stream of vile abuse that you are now letting forth at friend and foe alike is more than human nature can be expected to stand.

1) "Selected Speeches on Foreign Policy,' p. 335. | cheaper editions.

1) "The Moral Damage of War," by W.Walsh p. 155. American edition.

2) "Atrocities of British Rule in Egypt," by Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, pp. 61 and 62. See also "The Denshawai Horror" in "John Bull's Other Island," by G. Bernard Shaw. Miscellaneous Papers, No. 3 and 4, Egypt, 1906.

<sup>3</sup>) "The River War," by Right Hon. Winston Churchill. Vol. II., p. 222. First edition, 1899. This passage has been struck out of the later

1) "The Queen's Daughters in India." Appendix, p. 3. "Circular memo. addressed to General Officers commanding divisions and districts." 2) Sir A. Conan Doyle, who is now advocating that Englishmen should lay down their lives in defence of Belgium, wrote as follows in 1909 in "The Crime of the Congo," about the Belgian attitude towards the Congo atrocities: "The Belgians have been given their chance. They have had nearly twenty-five years of undisturbed possession, and they have made the Congo a hell upon earth. They cannot disassociate themselves from this work or pretend that it was done by a separate State. It was done by a Belgian king, Belgian soldiers, Belgian financiers. Belgian lawyers, Belgian capital, and was endorsed and defended by Belgian Governments. It is out of the question that Belgium should remain on the Congo," p. 123.

Yours truly, C. H. Norman.

A colored man's objection to the safety razor is that it is valueless for social purposes.

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