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LATEST NEWS SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

State of Siege. Lugano, Tuesday. An Athens telegram from the Idea Nazionale says that a state of siege will be proclaimed throughout Greece on Jan. 20.

Capitulation of Montenegro

THE FIRST PEACE CONCLUDED

Montenegro Surrenders Unconditionally and Lays Down Arms. Serious Blow to Russia and Italy. King Nikita Saw which way the Military Stream Was Flowing

Vienna, Tuesday. The highly important news has come from Staff Head Quarters that the King of Montenegro and his Government have decided to give up any further resistance and begged to be allowed to enter into peace negotiations.

The Austro-Hungarian Government made reply to the request that the first conditions would be that the Montenegrin Army should at once surrender its arms.

The Montenegrin Government immediately accepted the conditions imposed.

That understanding was come to on Jan. 13 but only published on the 17.

In Budapest

In the Budapest Parliament Count Tisza announced the fact of the capitulation of the Montenegrin Kingdom which news was received with great cheering and Elgen cries. The Premier said, that without wishing to exaggerate the importance of the capitulation it must be taken as a happy and very auspicious event, one in which the soldiers of the monarchy and the Hungarian nation were to reap the first fruits of their endurance and heroism.

Count Tisza added: "Montenegro has laid down its arms and surrendered unconditionally. It has placed its future fate in our hands counting upon our generosity. At this moment the plenipotentiaries of Austro-Hungary and Montenegro are together arranging the terms of peace. The war came from the Balkans and in the Balkans peace will be concluded. What the immediate result of the present event will be cannot yet be forecast. One fact is certain, namely that it will have a big effect all over Europe, specially with the neutral powers.

The daughter of the Montenegrin King sits on the throne of Italy, its heir Apparent has been for days past in Rome where King Victor Emanuel is just at present residing together with his military Staff and Cabinet. It is therefore evident that the decision to sue for peace by Montenegro was with the consent of the Italian King. What the results will be for Italian policy is so far undetermined. What we do know is, that Servia, Montenegro and Albania have been declared by the Entente as being in the sphere of Italian influence. That, after the destruction of Servia, Italy took no measures to defend Montenegro, is a fact which may be construed in some other sense.

Montenegro Sued Earlier

Vienna, Tuesday. Already on Jan. 7, after the loss of the Lowtschen, Montenegro asked for an armistice which was refused. Now the former Austro-Hungarian representative, Eduard Otto, has hurried to the seat of war, in order to join the Plenipotentiaries and give the benefit of his advice as regards the peace negotiations.

The Negotiations

Vienna, Tuesday. The Neue Freie Presse says that on Jan. 13, the Orthodox New Year's day, two Montenegrin Ministers and a Major appeared before the Austro-Hungarian advance posts. They told that they were there to engage in negotiations for a capitulation. Immediately measures were discussed for the practical carrying out of that wish.

The Montenegrins will surrender all their modern weapons which includes even those that have come into their possession by inheritance, and trophies.

All Montenegrins of age to bear arms will be assembled in large companies and lay down their weapons. After that they will be interned. The various towns and districts will be called upon to formally surrender and be answerable for the giving up of all weapons. It is reckoned that after that all the Austro-Hungarian troops can be removed from Montenegro.

Press Opinion.

Vienna, Tuesday. The Allgemeine Zeitung, which has close relations with the Foreign Office, says: "King Nikita was always reckoned a clever calculator. That he thought well to capitulate shows clearly that he no longer doubts which is the winning side in

the World's War. The capitulation of Montenegro is a terrible blow for Russia, the Tzar of which country once raised his glass and toasted the Monarch of the Black Mountains as his only friend. For Italy, Montenegro was a most important advance post against Austro-Hungary. Victor Emanuel was however not in position to come to the assistance of King Nikita.

In Berlin.

In the Reichstag the President Dr. Kaempf interrupted the debate at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, in order to read a telegram telling of the Capitulation of the Montenegrins, as reported by Count Tisza in the Budapest Parliament. The announcement was received with enthusiastic cheers and applause from all sides.

President Count von Schwerin Löwitz made a similar declaration in the Abgeordnetenhaus and ended up by the sentiment Vivat Sequens.

Rioting in America.

Serious Strikes During Which Many People are Killed and Injured. Mob Set Fire to Buildings.

Youngstown (Ohio), Tuesday. Serious strike rioting is going on here. The death-roll already amounts to three killed and nineteen wounded. The strikers, who are employes of the steel works at East Youngstown, began by setting fire to buildings covering six blocks, and this was followed by wholesale looting.

The situation became so serious, that the authorities decided to blow up the East-Youngstown bridge, so as to prevent the rioters from crossing the river. A number of strikers got drunk on stolen whisky, seized 500lb of dynamite, and blew up several buildings. They now threaten to destroy the residential section. Troops have been summoned from various towns as the police are powerless to quell the disorder. They are expected to arrive this morning. Numerous arrests have been made. Many have been rendered homeless as the result of the fires and dynamite outrages.

Later.

Three regiments of militia are maintaining order in East Youngstown and the other industrial suburbs. There were a few minor clashes today which were hardly worthy of mention. The loss of property during yesterday's disturbances is estimated at \$1,000,000. Reuter.

The Continental Times is the only newspaper published in all Europe which tells the truth in English.

Australian Prisoners in Asia Minor.

London, Tuesday. Rear-Admiral Sir William Creswell, in Australia, has received a letter from Lieut.-Commander J. H. Stoker, the commanding officer of Submarine AE 2, which lies at the bottom of the Sea of Marmora, stating that the whole of the crew are quite fit and well, and are taking their imprisonment in as cheerful a spirit as possible. They have been moved into the centre of Asia Minor, to a healthy spot, about 4,000 ft above the sea level, and all the officers and men have been inoculated against typhoid.

Lieut.-Commander Stoker states that on many occasions only a matter of seconds separated the crew from certain death, but all hands, down to the youngest Australian seaman on board, did their work with a steady coolness beyond all praise. The officers and men are proud of the fact that an Australian warship was the first British vessel to pass through the Dardanelles.

CURIOUS REPORT.

Lugano, Tuesday. The Secolo is responsible for the report that at the last meeting of the King and his Ministers, it was decided to send large numbers of troops to Albania in order to assist the Servians and Montenegrins. The decision would appear to have come rather late.

Ultimatum to Greece

Quadruple Alliance Insists that All Diplomatic and Consular Representatives of Central Powers be Sent Away within Twenty Four Hours.

Sofia, Tuesday. According to news received from Athens the Quadruple Alliance diplomatic representatives have handed a note, tantamount to an Ultimatum, calling upon Greece to expel all Central Powers Consular and Diplomatic representatives in Greece within 24 hours. If Greece refuses, the Quadruple Alliance will take the necessary measures.

VERY SERIOUS FOR GREECE.

Frankfurt, Tuesday. The Frankfurter Zeitung Athens Correspondent telegraphs that the interior situation in Greece is most alarming. The agitation of the Venizelos party is being most actively carried on, backed by apparently endless financial resources and it takes a pronounced anti-dynastic form. The Government does not appear to be possessed of sufficient strength to step in and stem the movement. A coup de main by the Quadruple Alliance appears not improbable. The Allies completely control the Greek food supplies from abroad.

ITALIANS IN ALBANIA.

Said to be Large Concentration of Troops at Valona. Servians at Scutari.

Athens, Tuesday. Information, from a reliable source, confirms the news that Italian troops to the number of 28,000 have landed at Valona. According to information from the same source, the Serbian army now concentrated at Scutari and El Bassan numbers 75,000 men. Despite the difficult conditions under which their retreat was carried out, the Serbians have succeeded in reforming their ranks and taking measures for the protection of their new bases against the Austrian and Bulgarian advance towards El Bassan.

The transportation of these troops to the Salonica front is regarded as a difficult matter, on account of the presence in the Adriatic of an Austrian squadron. The Italian fleet charged with the duty of watching the Adriatic is confining itself to cruising along the littoral of the Epirus.

They Will Retire.

Athens, Tuesday. The Athenian newspapers appear to think that in view of the situation in which they find themselves, the General commanding the Anglo-franco forces in Salonica will decide that there is nothing further to be done than to re-embark and give up the so-called Balkan expedition.

Offensive Impossible.

Lugano, Tuesday. The Salonica Correspondent of the Corriere della Sera sends his paper, a long telegram in which he tells that the observations made by the aeroplaneists, show that the forces of the Allies are so outnumbered by those of the enemy that an offensive movement by the French and English is quite out of the question. The matter of when hostilities shall commence therefore lies in the hands of the Central Power military leaders.

THE TERRITORIAL WIVES.

Paris, Tuesday. In a village close to the front, where a Territorial regiment was resting, a general paid a surprise visit. He discovered a large number of ladies in the village, who evidently were not natives. He was not long in learning that they were the wives of the Territorials.

He summoned all the ladies into the village square and spoke. "Ladies, you have one half-hour to get out. I will hold the oldest among you responsible for carrying out my orders. Which is she?" There was no answer. "In that case, I choose one of you at random. The little dark lady there will take command. In twenty-five minutes, madame will lead the detachment out of the village."

The little dark lady did so, and in the requisite half hour the battalion of wives had left. The story adds, that the next day the general having departed, the little dark lady marched all the detachment of wives back again to the village, where they are still.

Allies Divided

Amongst Themselves

Mutual Recriminations Over the Responsibility for The Sacrifice of Servia and Montenegro.

France and England

Attack Italy. Reply

of Italian Press.

By far and away the most striking and significant sign of the times, lies in the constant differences of opinion growing up between the Italians and the Allies of that country.

For a considerable while past Italy, being evidently kept short of money by England, has been showing ill temper toward the British Government, and that sentiment has been still further accentuated by the attack of the English and French press upon Italy because of that country having failed to support Montenegro and prevented the land of King Nikita from being left in the same position as Servia.

The King Accused.

The English newspapers have gone so far as to accuse the King of Italy of lack of rightful affection for his father-in-law, and quite naturally the Italian papers have taken up the cudgels and accuse the English squarely and openly of being tricky, of inciting the other nations to bear the brunt of the fighting whilst the British themselves have carefully kept as far away as possible from the fighting line. One Italian newspaper has boldly stated that the English have a tendency to occupy the rear trenches whilst they willingly give the place of honor in the foremost lines, to the French. That is a statement, whether it be true or not, which must necessarily be exceedingly disagreeable reading to the British.

The Corriere della Sera without doubt the richest and most influential newspaper in Italy has entered wholeheartedly into the fray and warmly espouses the cause of Italy as against the attack made by the Temps Times and other papers.

The Temps Attacks.

The Temps, which has of late been very critical of Italy and the share that country has taken in the war, after somewhat dubiously expressing the hope that the situation, so compromised, may be saved by the Salonica venture, commences to criticise the conduct of Italy. It gives its opinion that Italy by an excessive concentration of its forces upon the futile Isonzo attacks and those in the Alps, lost sight of what was much more important to Italy, and which, both on military and political grounds, demanded instant attention, the Lowtschen. The carelessness of Italy in that matter was merely one of a series of failures which fell upon the diplomatic efforts of the Allies in the Balkans and which the French have first checked by the occupation of Salonica (?).

Too Late.

Says the Temps the Interests of Italy in the Adriatic are far and away greater than those of any other country. But unfortunately events developed too quickly for adequate preventative measures to be taken. And now the Lowtschen is lost; Montenegro belongs to the countries that have fallen victims to Germany. Regrets are now futile but it is to be hoped that the lesson learnt may prevent the same kind of mistakes in the future.

A Failure.

The well known military writer in the Bund Herbert Stegemann says: "The failure of the Entente to come to the assistance of their Servian and Montenegrin Allies has not only had a terrifically demoralising effect upon the two last countries but also upon the war prospects of the Entente upon which it falls as a crushing blow, to such a point that one keeps asking, how it could be that the war council of the Allies did not at once see that the bringing of aid to Servia was of vital importance? Today we know that such aid was only attempted in the case of the unlucky offensive on the Wardar and in the transportation of the Servian troops to Corfu. The occupation of Corfu has naturally complicated the situation and in nowise furthers the interests of the Entente, although it is a fact that the Greeks are the greatest sufferers.

Continued page 2.

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Business Section.
Imports and Exports. — Finances and Forwards

Kaiser at the Front Again.

Emperor William had been to the front and remained there almost continuously since the commencement of the war, ever active, travelling from one front to the other, distributing coveted rewards to soldiers who had deserved well of their country, making brief addresses to his beloved warriors each word of which acts as a powerful stimulus to renewed action on the part of those sturdy fighters who have already passed through almost superhuman trials. Everywhere that he goes the Kaiser speaks words of hope and encouragement to his officers and their men, and thus His Imperial Majesty in a quite special degree has raised the spirit and stimulated the energies of every single individual, from the Fieldmarshal and his Staff, down to the private in the ranks. Emperor William has always spread the fire of renewed enthusiasm and patriotism amongst his troops and made every man feel proud that his services were personally appreciated and recognised by his Ruler.

A couple of weeks or so ago, Emperor William, after a particularly prolonged visit to the front, returned to Potsdam for rest and treatment of a minor local trouble, a boil on the neck. At once the British newspapers, without the least foundation for such statements, began to publish the most sensational articles concerning the health of Emperor William. H. I. M. was seriously ill and it was hinted, and even openly stated, little likely to recover.

The Emperor on Sunday last, in the best and most robust of health, once again started for the front. It will be interesting to note how the English newspapers will explain that wondrous recuperation of the Monarch they had given up as doomed. The truth is, as all say who have seen him, Kaiser Wilhelm enjoys the best of health; the hardships of a soldier's life at the front have agreed with him prodigiously, he is forever in the best of spirits, full of energy and life and by his cheery manner and confident mien stimulating and enlivening his soldiers wherever he appears.

Asquith Easily Pleas'd.

Surely there has never been at the head of any responsible Ministry a man who shows himself so easily pleas'd as Mr. Asquith. Periodically and very often of late, he has had, what almost seems with him a pleasure, to announce to the assembled legislators in the House of Commons, yet another retreat of the British forces, and without fail the British Premier with joyous countenance tells the Members of the House of Commons that the latest retreat will forever remain as one of the most glorious episodes on the pages of the military history of the nation. And, so exactly as it was in the retreats from Kewgeli and Sulva bay, when the Prime Minister lathered the English soldier well nigh out of sight with the thickness of his praise, so also again the retreat from Sedd-ul-Bahr is announced to the British Parliament as yet another glorious inscription in the annals of great British military accomplishments.

But the English press is getting decidedly out of temper with the perpetual suavity of Mr. Asquith and his contentedness with the mass of blunders made by incapable military leaders. As the *Manchester Guardian* recently wrote, Mr. Asquith yesterday gave three or four sentences to one of the greatest military exploits and one of the greatest tragedies in English history. From beginning to end the casualties at Anzac and Sulva can hardly have fallen short of 100,000. That debt is not discharged by a beggarly hundred words—barely a word to every thousand casualties. It still remains to be paid.

The *Daily Mail* heads a column concerning the retreat which Mr. Asquith considers a never to be forgotten page of glory upon the book of British military history as the: "History of a tragic blunder."

Allies Divided.

(Continued from page 1.)

It is quite clear that the capture of the Lowtschen and the occupation of Corfu by the French, must necessarily make a most powerful impression in Italy. It was the foundation of Italian military and political policy, that the Lowtschen should not fall into the hands of the Austrians. In vain the Italians tried to capture them, and now they must stand by and see how the keystone of the Adriatic coast falls into the hands of Austria, which country in April of 1915 was willing to cede a substantial slice of the Isonzo frontier and to give up all aspirations to the possession of the Lowtschen and even to renounce entirely all claims upon Albania. And thus, the war has entirely altered conditions in the Adriatic. It is more than doubtful if ever the scale will change to the other side.

What Has Russia Done?

The *Corriere della Sera* reviews the situation and seeking to find where the real fault lies and who is responsible for all the trouble that has fallen upon the Quadruple Alliance of late asks: "What has Russia done either in the Dardanelles or in the Balkans. When the French send troops to Salonica, England helps by contributing 700,000 men to their front. Who is there who comes to the assistance of Italy which country cannot spare a single man from the front?"

The *Italia* in a leading article says that it is high time that the Government should stop deceiving and lying to the people, just as Churchill and Asquith did in the case of the Dardanelles expedition; everyone can see what the end will be.

The *Avanti* says that recent events and discussions which have arisen clearly show how artificial the supposed unity of the Quadruple Alliance is and how utterly incapable the Salandra Sonnino Ministry is of carrying through the war it has undertaken.

To Help at Salonica.

Although it is well understood that the Italians have no soldiers to spare, the *Temps* publishes an article in which it lectures Italy as to the duty of that country to come to the assistance of the Allied forces at Salonica. The French newspaper says that Salonica is the only point where Italy can accomplish any effective work towards the helping of Serbia and Montenegro and that all efforts in the Adriatic are futile. The opinion is offered that the Isonzo front is so well defended that in any case, even if the Italians were to bring all their forces there, they could never break through. The Italians however could render great service if they would come and help at Salonica to complete a labyrinth of trenches in front of the Bulgarian positions so as to make the capture of that town exceedingly expensive to the enemy.

Quadruple Allies Quarrel Again

Sofia, Tuesday. Italy has remonstrated vigorously against the occupation of the Island of Castellorizo by the Entente Powers. At the beginning of the war Italy laid claim to Castellorizo and it was not admitted. But, of late, a proposition has been made to Italy to give up Castellorizo to that country in return for which Italian troops were to be sent to assist England and France in Salonica. Such assistance Cadorna refused saying Italy had not a single soldier to spare.

Do not throw away your Continental Times after reading it, but send it to a friend either at home or abroad.

MORAL OF THE DARDANELLES FIASCO.

There is a lesson which we must assimilate without loss of time. Offensive operations by large forces of infantry against positions where the enemy has had twenty-four hours or more to entrench, are certain to lead to heavy loss, and should not be tried unless they are likely to yield an important result with fair prospect of success. Such a prospect is not to be hoped for, unless the troops have at any rate the cohesion which only comes from a certain length of common service under arms, and unless the commanders of all units, but particularly the Staff and higher command thoroughly understand the tactics of this form of warfare. It may probably be added that such attacks will rarely, if ever be successful unless one or both of two conditions be fulfilled. The artillery of the assailants must be able to overwhelm the hostile defences, and pressure must be exerted from a flank or against a salient on the hostile line of battle.

If the direction of the enterprise was not all that might have been wished from a military and political standpoint, we draw profound consolation however, from the conduct of the troops. Nor is it the case that their blood was spilt entirely in vain. The magnificent series of achievements by these troops, some of whom were recently raised and insufficiently trained, is of solid value to the Empire, and renders it infinitely improbable that we can ultimately be defeated.

(Daily Telegraph.)

NO MORE NAVIES WANTED.

Chicago, Thursday. The *Chicago Tribune* writes editorially:

Lord Rosebery, who is a statesman in more or less retirement, seems to have been reading some American pacifist comment on Secretary Daniels' navy proposals. He has heard that the United States "is about to embark upon the building of a huge armada, destined to be equal or second to our own." If we are about to embark upon such an enterprise it will not be because Secretary Daniels and his chief have recommended it, but we hope Lord Rosebery is an inspired prophet, or at least better informed than ourselves.

Lord Rosebery's regret that we are voluntarily taking up the burden of a navy of first or second size, seems to us tinged with a certain unconscious irony. When he proceeds to point out that in the future it will be quite impossible to make treaty arrangements between the great powers without first obtaining material guarantees and that this ultimately means force, the irony somewhat deepens.

No nation deplors the need for costly defence more than the American, and we have proved it, not by deploring merely, as Lord Rosebery does, but by refusing to pay for it. Now that European politics has brought about a state of affairs in which, as Lord Rosebery himself assures us, the faith of treaties must be supported more than ever before by the sword, it would seem to be time for us to conform to the system. When Lord Rosebery talks of our "voluntarily" assuming the burden of armament he is hardly accurate, for if we do so it is with the worst will in the world.

If, as the result of the present conflict, in the bloody offspring of generations of European rivalry, there appears any opportunity to lay the foundations of a durable peace, the American republic will be first to take advantage of it, as it has been the last among the great powers to consider even moderate armament for self-defence. But Lord Rosebery thinks that force must still back international arrangements, and we agree with him. Therefore we advocate efficient armament for our country and view with some suspicion the regrets of a statesman whose nation has supported for a century the greatest navy in the world, and which today makes academic our protests against his dictatorship over our commerce.

MOTOR FACTORIES HARD HIT.

Presumably this Proclamation is intended to cover all power-driven tools, and does not refer to hand lathes, drills and other light tools. If this interpretation of the rather indefinite phrase, "excluding small tools," be correct, then the new order will hit particularly those motor factories which have just been experiencing a slackening of the Government demand, and which consequently, have been making tentative arrangements for obtaining the required fresh plant in order to recommence their normal species of manufacture.

It may be that the Government has the intention not only of preventing such firms from securing the new machine tools necessary for the carrying on of their business—and, instead, securing such tools for national purposes—but also, it is thought, of actually acquiring machine tools from those few existing factories that have not every such tool actually engaged on munition work, though such tools may be all that are left for enabling the merest vestige of ordinary trade connections to be maintained.

Of course, the nation's interests may compel such sacrifices, even to the extent of fetching the whole of the up-to-date plant from certain factories to the new State establishments though this would mean immense industrial loss—loss which could be avoided were the Government, as has been suggested, to set up their own machine-tool factories.

TRADE IN OVERCROWDED INDIA

Last year India imported goods valued at \$60,000,000, of which we supplied only 2.6 per cent and this chiefly in lines where we have a practical monopoly—kerosene, tobacco and sewing machines.

The native of India is a keen trader, none too scrupulous, and does business on a small margin. It is said that he retails goods so close that his profit is made by selling the packing box. Natives become landlords by the purchase of a piano shipping case. This would be divided into two compartments by a board. The lower section would be rented for a few cents a month to a silversmith; the upper leased to a dhursie or native shirt maker, while on top a cap merchant displays his wares.

Incomes are so small that the individual who owns a "hubble-bubble" or water pipe has several rubber tubes connected with it and for a "pice", one-sixteenth of a cent, allows patrons to have one puff. I mention these facts to give a real glimpse of conditions. Despite this, I know this market is worthy of our best efforts.

India to-day needs drugs, medicines, cotton, dyes, glassware, instruments, machinery, matches, metals, oils, paper, sugar, boots and shoes, sporting goods, socks, haberdashery, wool and yarn.

(W. E. Aughinbaugh in Leslie's)

AUSTRO-HUNGARY

Reasons Why Italy Failed to Come to the Rescue of Serbia and Montenegro.

Importance of Lovtschen The Keystone Dominating the Adriatic. Italy Weakened by Constant and Futile Attacks. Victory in Bessarabia.

Vienna, Tuesday. As we judge it here, the Italians have come very nearly to the end of their resources, otherwise they would never have left Montenegro in the lurch as they have done. To all who know the strategic geography of the Adriatic, it is quite evident that the dominating series of fortified works, known as the Lovtschens, recently wrested from the Montenegrins and taken by assault by our gallant troops, form the Keystone of the whole of the Dalmatian Coast. The Power that possesses the Lovtschen may be considered as commanding the Adriatic. And, as we know full well, the so deeply rooted national policy of Italy is based entirely upon holding a dominating position in Albania. That dream is now over. Austria, holding the Lovtschen, stands paramount in the Adriatic.

Italy Weakened.

The revelation which accompanies the fall of the Lovtschen, is that Italy has so weakened itself by the unceasing and senseless attacks upon the Isonzo, Krn and other fronts in the Alps, that it had not a single soldier to spare to send to Serbia, Montenegro or anywhere else.

It is known here that there is trouble concerning money between England and Italy. The English are wont to try and make bargains with the Italians, to offer them so much money for so many troops to be sent to a given front, as indicated from Whitehall. But that does not suit the Italians at all and they have in turn refused to send troops to Gallipoli, Egypt, Salonica and Serbia, although urged to do so by England. As a result the British treasury, itself hard pressed, has been closing the purse strings as regards Italy. And hence there is much bitterness in Governmental Circles in Rome, against what is termed the perfidy of England.

The Turn of the Tide.

Already it will be seen in the latest official reports of the staff, that the Austro-Hungarian troops have begun to take the offensive against the Italians, after allowing that treacherous enemy to exhaust itself in months of futile bombardments, the entire result of which may be summed up in the useless destruction of the town of Goerz. But those bombardments almost entirely conducted by means of the new big caliber cannon of which the Italians were so proud, and which they imagined to be equal to the "Big Bertha" or our famous Skoda Mortars, proved a failure against the defenses which had been so cleverly and carefully prepared for a war which Italy had been anticipating for years past, and which our famous Freiherr von Conrad had fully foreseen and provided for.

And so, we may take it now, that the Italians by their wild attacks, their exaggeration in artillery fire and their endless fierce and futile assaults upon our impregnable positions, have worn out their big field pieces, brought about a shortage in munitions, broken the courage of their soldiers and suffered terrific losses.

Prisoners Taken.

The latest Staff report from the front tells of nearly a thousand Italians being brought in prisoners from the neighborhood of Oslavitsa, amongst whom were 31 officers, three machine guns and three mine throwers. And from what we hear this is only the beginning. Even now great anxiety is expressed in Italy as to what the coming few months may bring. Already the flower of the Italian army has perished in the perpetual attacks which the never to be forgotten Cadorna has been so fond of referring to. And well may the Italians feel anxious, for Italy is today the hardest hit of any of the nations forming the Quadruple Alliance.

Victory in Bessarabia.

Against the Russians likewise our soldiers have been doing fine work by allowing them to attack frequently. Our defensive in Bessarabia and about Czernowitz has been masterly. The Russians there and threabouts have now lost some 70,000 men and it looks very much as though they had given up further attempts to pierce our lines. From what the prisoners tell, up to the very last, the Russians appeared to have held the supreme hope that they would be able to push through. But they had apparently entirely misjudged the perfection of the Austro-Hungarian artillery which was simply beyond praise. It was an all important question of munitions. The Russians evidently thought that in that respect we could not possibly maintain our supplies. But all was perfectly organised and should the Russians be rash enough to advance again, they will find us prepared for all emergencies.

The Open Tribune

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. The Continental Times is not responsible for the opinions of the contributors to this column. Contributors are requested to limit the length of their letters to the utmost, in order to avoid the necessity of curtailing by the Editor.

Goethe and the United States.

To the Editor.
Whilst the European nations are engaged in hearing themselves to point, the United States of America is confronted with the solution of a problem which may or may not lead to a long and fierce struggle for racial supremacy in the Far East. It may therefore not be uninteresting for Americans to know what—about 90 years ago—a great German thought the trend of American policy ought to be in the war future. We mean Goethe, whose opinion on the subject we find in J. P. Eckermann's "Talks with Goethe." In February 1829 they (viz. Goethe and Eckermann) were discussing Alexander von Humboldt's work on Cuba and Columbia in which the author very cleverly gives his view on the possibility of a cut through the Isthmus of Panama. Commenting on Humboldt's deep knowledge of the subject G. gave vent to the following reflections of his own:

"All this," he says to E., "may be reserved for the future and an energetic spirit of enterprise. But this much at least is certain a cut of this kind, should it ever be succeeded in, viz for ships of any dimension and tonnage to pass through a channel from the Mexican Gulf to Pacific Ocean, would benefit, the entire world both civilised and uncivilised by results of quite incalculable value. It would therefore greatly surprise me if the United States should allow an opportunity to slip by wherewith to take this matter in their own hands. It is to be foreseen that a young nation with decided tendencies towards the West, will within the next 30 to 40 years not only have taken possession of but also have actually populated the vast tracts of a land on the other side of the Rocky Mountains. It is further to be foreseen, that all along the Pacific coast where nature already provides for safe and spacious ports, towns will spring up to serve as mediators of a big traffic between China, the East Indies and the United States. In this case it would not only be desirable but almost necessary for merchantmen as well as men—of—war, to maintain a quicker service between the West and East Coasts of North America than the hitherto tiresome, disagreeable and expensive route round Cape Horn. It is therefore absolutely indispensable for the United States to effect a passage from the Mexican Gulf to the Pacific and I am convinced they will attain it.

This I would like to live to see but I am afraid I shall not." Goethe died in 1832. Meanwhile his prophetic words became true.

Hans Ernst Peters.

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DESPATCHES SAVED.

Paris, Tuesday. Senor Ibanez de Ibero, a Spanish journalist, has just arrived from Constantinople. Writing in the *Echo de Paris*, he states that, crossing from Albania to Italy, he took passage in the steamship Spezzia, the vessel which conveyed Colonel Napier and Captain Wilson. As will be remembered, a submarine stopped the steamer, and captured both British officers, who are now prisoners of war in Austria.

It had hitherto been reported that Colonel Napier threw into the sea a despatch-box containing papers which he had been carrying, and that a sailor from the submarine had fished up the despatches.

Senor de Ibero now says that, on the contrary, Colonel Napier, before his capture, had time to give him the despatch-box, which he took charge of and duly delivered to the British Ambassador at Rome.

Captain A. Stanley Wilson, M. P., who is a prisoner of war in Austria, has written the following letter to Colonel G. A. Duncombe, chairman of the Holderness Conservative Association:

Here I am a prisoner of war, and with only one hope—that the war will be over soon. I was taken off a Greek steamer by a submarine on Dec. 6. After two nights and a day and a half on board I was brought here. I must not give any details. Colonel Napier was also taken prisoner, and we are together. Fortunately I have in him a capital companion, who can speak German very well. I am afraid it will be a very long time before I see my constituents, I wish them all a happy New Year, and hope that during next year I may meet them again. The outlook for me is not very bright, but I intend to do my best to be cheerful. Up to the present we have been very well treated. We had some most exciting experiences in the submarine. The officers on board treated us as though we were their guests, and not their prisoners. We have as companions two French officers who were made prisoners of the day before us, their submarine having run ashore.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BURGESS UPON THE WAR

Clearst and Best Exposition of this Great Bewildering Conflict That has Entangled Germany. Problems of the War and Their Significance for the United States.

"Anti-German Craze" Systematically Prepared Under Sinister Foreign Influence.

A splendid book on *The European War of 1914, its Causes, Purposes and Probable Results*, has been written by John William Burgess, formerly professor of constitutional and international law, and dean of the faculties of political science, philosophy and pure science in Columbia University. It is sketched by an American for Americans, discussing all the essential questions connected with the war from an American point of view, and it is unquestionable that Dean Burgess is easily the most competent judge as to the different problems of this war, their history and their significance for the United States; for indeed international law, and the political history of both continents, Europe and America, have been his specialty, and the reader feels that the author is speaking with authority. He writes:

"Europe is now writhing in the agony of a great labor pain of human development, and while God grant that we may escape active participation in the suffering, we cannot avoid having our own interests most profoundly involved in the outcome. Let us make sure that we correctly conceive what those interests are and how they will be best subserved."

The Anti-German Craze.

Professor Burgess sees with keen penetration through the schemes of British diplomacy and calls our attention to facts which many of us either overlook or have forgotten. He has watched with amazement "the anti-German craze" which has swept over this country. This craze has been prepared under some sinister foreign influence, says Dean Burgess:

"Everything has been done, and done according to a seemingly long-matured and sinister plan, to give the American people not simply an erroneous, but an absolutely false, conception of German institutions, purposes, and aspirations."

In discussing the occasions of the war, he points out that "the diplomacy of Sir Edward Grey struck out upon a line which if it had not been intended to bring war" . . . would be "evidence of great dullness in the mind of its inventor."

In speaking of the proximate causes, the history of Europe during the last century is passed in review. In the chapter following, the British and the Russian empires are described, and it is astonishing how similar the two are. We read:

"The Russian economic and political systems have more points of likeness with the British

than is usually conceived. Substituting the Czar for the almighty House of Commons, and the Grand Ducal circle for the Cabinet, and keeping in mind that the connection of the dependencies with the nucleus of the empire is territorial instead of oversea, and that, therefore, the necessary organ of military power is a vast army instead of an overwhelming navy, and you have in substance the elements whose play and interplay bring about something like the same results and produce something like the same policy as in the British system. At least we may say that the two are admirably adapted to supplement each other in the conquest of the world. They possess between them now nearly half of it, and if they can only agree between themselves to let the one have the whole of Asia and continental Europe and the other all the rest, then possibly will the Millennium be ushered in and, with the Bear and the Lion in loving embrace, mankind may enjoy everlasting peace."

Iron Rule.

We are accustomed to think that England is the freest country in the world, but in its political government Parliament dominates the Empire with a rod of iron. Professor Burgess says:

"There is no judicial body which can uphold the rights of the individual against an act of Parliament; in fact, against an act of Parliament no individual right exists. There is no independent executive which can veto, modify, check, or delay an act of Parliament. And the House of Lords can now no longer thwart or even modify permanently the will of the House of Commons, wielded by the majority party in that House, under the leadership of its Executive Committee, the Cabinet of Ministers."

"There is no longer a British constitution according to the American idea of constitutional government, i. e. a government limited judicially by the rights of the individual, expressed and guaranteed by a written instrument, ordained by the sovereign people and interpreted and enforced by the courts, and limited politically by the constitutional distribution of powers between, and the co-ordination of separate and independent departments of government. In this only true sense of constitutional government, the British Government is a despotism."

The Germans, though having the most military institutions, compelling every man to bear arms for the defense of the country, are least warlike people on earth.

"In the twenty years of her wonderful industrial development between the years 1890 and 1910, she acquired less than two thousand square miles of foreign territory, while Great Britain acquired nearly two million, Russia almost as much, France six to eight hundred thousand, Belgium a million, and even the United States of America about one hundred and fifty thousand, and while Germany acquired the bits of this small area, in about every case, by purchase or lease, all the other countries seized most, if not all, of their gains by military conquest."

A School of Culture.

German militarism is much misunderstood and purposely misrepresented. It is quite democratic in its constitution. In this connection Dr. Burgess writes:

"The German army is not simply an organization for drill, discipline and fighting; it is also a school of general physical culture, through which the average life of German men has been increased by ten years and their average capacity for any kind of work by twenty-five per cent; it is a school of intellectual culture in which, besides military drill and tactics, mathematics, engineering, physics, geography and sanitation are taught to all the men; it is a school of moral culture which prevents demoralization and dissoluteness in the young men at the most critical age; it is a school of politeness in which rudeness of manners gives way to habits of courtesy; and it is a school of genuine patriotism through which the spirit of provincialism is made to yield to national loyalty. These educational and practical compensations overbalance the economic burden of German militarism, and distinguish it from the militarism of Russia and France, although they are all based upon the same principle of universal military service."

America's Debt.

We Americans owe much to German militarism, and it is worth while reprinting Professor Burgess's sketch of this chapter of American history. While we have suffered almost all our ills from the hands of British militarism and even more from British navalism, it is perfectly correct to say that the independence of the United States would not exist if German militarism had not given us strength to resist the forces that threatened to crush us, first, our rights and liberties, and then our union. Our author says:

"In our colonial period almost the entire western border of our country was occupied by Germans. It fell to them, therefore, to defend, in first instance, the colonists from

the attacks of the French and the Indians. They formed what was known in those times as the Regiment of Royal Americans, a brigade rather than a regiment, numbering some four thousand men, and the bands led by Nicholas Herkimer and Conrad Weiser. Many of the men composing these bodies had been schooled in military tactics and discipline in their German fatherland, and the service which they rendered in creating, organizing, and drilling this little army of some six thousand men cannot be overestimated. It enabled us to resist successfully the French and their Indian allies in the Seven Years War, which they made upon us from 1756 to 1763, and it gave a nucleus for our Revolutionary Army.

"At the outbreak of our War of Independence, Herkimer, Mühlenberg and Schläter gathered the Germans in the Mohawk Valley and the Virginia Valley together and organized them into companies for service. Baron Ottendorff, another German soldier, recruited and drilled the famous Armand Legion. And when Washington's first bodyguard was suspected of treasonable sentiments and plans, it was dismissed and a new bodyguard consisting entirely of Germans was formed. This new bodyguard was supported by a troop of cavalry consisting entirely of Germans, under the command of Major Barth von Heer, one of Frederick the Great's finest cavalry officers. This troop stood by Washington during the entire war, and twelve of them escorted him to Mt. Vernon when he retired.

Steuben's Services

"But the greatest contribution of German militarism to the cause of our independence was Baron von Steuben, the famous aide de camp of Frederick the Great. He came to us at the most critical period of the Revolution, that awful winter of 1777-78, when the remnants of our forces, a small band of ragged, starved, and discouraged militiamen, were trying to keep body and soul together at Valley Forge. He shared their sufferings, he introduced the Prussian organization, discipline, and drill among them. In a few months he made a real army out of them, which turned defeat into victory and made our independence possible. He then proceeded to the south and organized and disciplined the army for General Greene. He was present at the siege of Yorktown, and, as the only American officer who had ever witnessed the storming of a fortified place, he rendered most invaluable service, and it was his fortune to be in command in the

trenches when the British flag was hauled down.

"And besides Steuben, there were Baron de Kalb, the most brilliant cavalry officer; Johann Schott, the most efficient artillery officer; General Lutterloh, the quartermaster general, and Christopher Ludwig, the master purveyor, all Germans, who had had the training of German militarism. It is not too much to say that German militarism did probably as much as any other thing to make our final triumph over Great Britain in our war for independence, possible.

"But we have had another and more recent war for our national existence: the war of 1861-65, the Civil War, as we of the North called it; the war between the states, as they of the South called it. Let us see if German militarism played any part in that great struggle, and if so, what that part was.

"Every one, even only slightly acquainted with the history of this war, knows that the question of first and greatest importance which arose and demanded solution, was that of the position in the struggle of the border slave states, namely: Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri. Mr. Lincoln's administration gave its attention most seriously and anxiously to the work of holding these states back from passing secession ordinances, and preventing them from being occupied by the armies of the Southern Confederacy.

"The most important among these states was Missouri. It was the largest; it reached away up into the very heart of the North; it commanded the left bank of the Mississippi for some five hundred miles; and the great United States arsenal of the West, containing the arms and munitions for that whole section of our country, was located in St. Louis. It had been stacked to the utmost capacity by the Secretary of War of the preceding administration, Mr. Floyd of Virginia, in the expectation that it would certainly fall into the hands of the South. The governor of the state, C. F. Jackson, manifested the stand he would take in his reply to President Lincoln's requisition for Missouri's quota of the first call for troops. He defied the President in the words: 'Your requisition, in my judgement, is illegal, unconstitutional, and revolutionary in its object; inhuman and diabolical, and cannot be complied with.'

(To be continued.)

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THE SPINE OF EUROPE

A BARRIER AGAINST BARBARISM

The New Highway to the Near East.

By R. L. Orchelle.

The term "Central Powers," is not merely geographical nor political. It has a greater and deeper significance. Europe must still be regarded as the modern centre of the world's civilization, of all that is ripe and rich in human history, art and culture. The Central Powers are now the centre of that centre. To-day they are the focus in which the civilization of the Caucasian race burns with the purest flame—at least in those portions that are Germanic.

These countries represent the bulwark of the civilization of Western Europe against the encroachments of mediaeval, semi-Asiatic Russia. Seen in a true historical light, the Central Powers are at present the champions of the entire occidental world against the primitive barbarism that would roll its insatiable bulk across the ancient fields of Europe in league with powers already mixed and allied with Africans and Asiatics. The war is an elemental war between two races, two traditions, two conceptions of life and culture—the Germanic and the Slav. That and that alone is the great historical issue—apart from such as are political and economic. Blinded, the one by greed, the other by revenge, England and France are battling against their own brother, the doughty champion of West European civilization, and therefore of their own welfare. Through these two renegade nations Europe is a house divided against itself and creaking in every beam and rafter. It is exposed to the onslaughts of Cossack and Tartar (with the Mongol in the distance) through the rancor of two of its denizens and the treachery of a third.

Happily for the future of the human race in the House of Europe, it is still protected against the menacing East by that unconquerable wall of German hearts and the valor of their Austrian-Hungarian brothers. Were that wall, that dyke to break, were the criminal longing of London and Paris to see Muscovy encamped in the Tiergarten ever to be realized—what ultimate safety would still exist for Paris or for London? The Fifteenth Century would swamp the Twentieth. A little while, as history is measured, and the Cossack would be encamped in Hyde Park and in the Bois de Boulogne. A philosophic Mongolian historian of the future would be able to write:

"Our conquest of the world began from that moment in which France and England decided to deliver the Central Powers unto the mercies of Russia." The Asiatic historian may also have illuminating words to write of the blindness of those in whose hands lay the destinies of the United States of that day.

But the wall has stood and the House of Europe is still safe. Every field-grey German-Austrian-Hungarian warrior serves as a stone in that wall and the wall itself as a monument to the perpetuity of the civilization of the white Western Continent. It was hoped that the chamber called Germany in the House of Europe would be made smaller. Such was King Edward's dream,—such Sir Edward's—his executor. They glanced at maps and at lists of standing armies. They observed that the position of the Central Powers was an unfavorable, even a precarious one. Cunningly, step by step, the most monstrous plot in all history was woven and spliced together and the life of the most vital, enlightened and efficient nation in the world was compassed round with doom and death. Germany's pleasant chamber was to be converted into a dungeon as terrible as that in Edgar's Allan Poe's story of the Inquisition, in which the walls became red-hot and rumbled steadily closer. That favorite phrase of the conspirators—the "crushing of Germany"—was to them an actual foregone conclusion—based upon the laws of mass and mechanics. They have not yet awakened, not even now, to the real reason for the failure of those laws in the realm of military, economic and political forces. They have not yet, so to speak, discovered the moon. Their brains are covered with a scum of horn—their eyes with thick films—a cataract has blasted them. They have not yet recovered from the stupefying fact of Germany's conquests and resistance, and so they wander in wildernesses of sounding words, empty threats and futile hopes, as at the beginning. They have lacked that chief qualification of successful conspirators—the faculty of "looking before and after." Perhaps this flaw in the plotters was to be pardoned—before the war. For in the nature of things it was simply not to be foreseen that Michel, the simple and unsuspecting German Michel, should suddenly dilate and

tower into Michael the archangel, terrible in his wrath, swinging his long and ruinous sword and burning in awful splendor with wings extended over half of Europe.

Let them consult the map once more,—if they have eyes. Have the confines of Germany been constricted? Where are her old frontiers? They have been obliterated and pushed into the very vitals of her enemies. That immense reservoir of incalculable moral, mental and physical forces called Germany has overflowed its bounds. The Allies' dream of Environment and Strangulation has been converted into Germany's reality of Expansion and Greater Freedom. Two smaller states lie utterly submerged—victims of betrayal by their friends, as much as of conquest by their enemies.

Germany,—once more to change the figure,—was as a vast dynamo that directed its energies into peaceful channels. But when these were cut off by her vengeful enemies, the dynamo wrapped itself in lightnings that darted in all directions with the force of an explosive bomb. The miscalculations of the Entente were the most monumental in all history—the achievement of its predestined victims the greatest of phenomena. But who can calculate against a miracle?

The vast historical crime of which the Entente made itself guilty was the attempt to suppress the natural and peaceful growth of a great and virile people—entitled by sheer merit and efficiency, not to speak of absolute necessity—to its "place in the sun." This crime is in its essence so overwhelming and black as to constitute an abomination against the supreme welfare of all civilization and humanity. And behind this crime and beneath it lowered all the unholiest and basest motives—from fear to greed.

Irresistibly, fatefully, as by some cosmic law, Germany broke her fetters and poured her potencies over Europe, north and south, east and west. Much may be learned from the map, and in reading it we must concern ourselves with many things other than rows of colored pins and the names of places. We behold an Empire in the making, not only in land permanently or temporarily occupied, but in the direction of new forces, tendencies and aims. The currents of the world's power, of its thought and of its trade will never again flow in the same channels as before.

Germany's pressure to the north has been chiefly by water—in the North Sea and the Baltic, though Sweden has responded to the pulse of the Germanic heart. Like the unfolding of Germany's eagle's wings, great stretches of land to east and west have been

taken under her aegis. And now, in conjunction with her allies, has come her tremendous thrust to southward. All Serbia is added to that puissant block of the Central Powers. The fresh energy of the Bulgarian nation is poured into this impregnable mass. Since the contact with Turkey, an enormous current of vitality pulsates from Antwerp to Stamboul, and thrills unto Bagdad and all the strongholds of the Mohammedan world.

The wintry East that is Russia has been hurled back, but the glowing East that is the Orient has been brought nearer to the heart of Europe. And Germany is achieving that place in the sun which the gorged yet insatiable nations would have denied her—and the sun is that of the East. The North-west passage by sea was for many generations the dream of old English merchants and sailors, but the Southeast passage by land is the achievement of modern German soldiers and statesmen. Along the glittering tracks of the railway from Berlin to Bagdad the course of empire shall take its swift, inevitable way. The Balkans, freed from Russian tutelage and machinations, will feel the vitalizing influence of Germanic science and system. Bulgaria was the first to awaken from her dangerous dream of Russia and to realize that she too forms part of that integral and natural mid-European chain or complexus of states. Greece and even Roumania feels the magnetism that invades them from that vibrating power so close at hand, a magnetism which may yet become irresistible as gravitation. The shadow of the Russian knout has passed from the unhappy mountain lands. It does not disturb the muezzin at his prayer upon the minarets of Constantinople. The misled and ambitious little state, Russia's bravo and vassal, has been brushed aside—the victim of its masters and its own megalomania. England trembles for her stolen land of Egypt—her long thin neck at Suez seems to feel the blow before it falls. The cold and basilisk-eyed Kitchener is sent flying hither and thither to drum up new allies—and fresh victims—all in vain.

For there are other forces than those of a military or diplomatic nature abroad in the Balkans—loud as the former may thunder and insistently as the latter may whisper and intrigue. The spirit of history is moving over the land, and the genius that presides over the growth and destiny of nations. For the first time in history, the beneficent influence of German civilisation—the harmonizing of man's inner and outer needs with the external world and his fellow-man

has had an opportunity of directly exerting itself. It comes with wise and healing hands to make good the havoc of war—to heal the wounds of war. Where there had been English exploitation there is German reconstruction—where there had been disintegration there is organisation.

Friendly Turkey feels the tremendous, revivifying impulse of Germanic vitality and rises triumphant over her ancient parasites and enemies. Outraged Bulgaria learns from her great ally the secret of success and the will to power. Distressed Belgium knows orderly government for the first time and revives and thrives even amidst the discipline of an enforced occupation. The wanton destruction inflicted upon hapless Poland by the Muscovite "protector of small nations", the misery that wept and starved in the wake of the routed Russians, is being assuaged by German benevolence. Lawless, abandoned Serbia may yet learn wisdom from its conquerors, its masters having failed to teach it to that brave but simple people. And there is scarcely one among all these millions of alien "enemies" now living under German rule, and military rule at that, who does not know that the terrors he was taught to fear in German government, not only have and have had no existence, but that his very liberties have in many instances been increased. That is the best answer to the madmen who shriek of the danger to civilization embodied in the German ideal. The danger to sick states or civilizations, lies in the disease and not in the physician.

The danger to Europe, a danger centuries old, fomented by and profited from by England alone, has always arisen through the disunion and disorganisation of the Continent. That is an historic truth as well as an historic tragedy. The first essentials to an organic body are cohesion and form. Glance at the map once more, at the steel ramparts of the German lines and their allies. These lines may alter in the course of things. But at present they form a titanic figure, a solid mass, linking up Europe with the Near East. Only Roumania and Greece are required to give it the predestined shape. Through this organic figure runs the spine of the new Europe. Along its nerves of steel and its arteries of iron throbs the life-currents and the aspirations of two continents and many peoples. It is the unshakable base upon which a Greater and Happier Europe may be built—after the agony has passed from that older Europe that mangled itself to its own undoing.

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