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ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN GENEVA VIENNA ROME

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1915.

Latest News.

Short items of interest from various sources.

What the English are Doing.

London, March 11th. General French reports: The situation remains unchanged. German patrols are held in check at La Bassée and also at Ypres and others parts of the front. On March 5th and 6th mines were blown up under the German trenches; several Germans were killed. We destroyed part of the trench at that place.

Fruitless Russian Attacks.

Berlin, March 11th. The Russians attempted in vain to force the German positions near Sereje, Augustow, and Ostrolenka. The German advance at Praszynsz and Nowo Miasto is progressing. The Russian column at Augustow has been annihilated; at the other points of the front 6 officers, 3160 men, 3 guns and 10 machine-guns were captured.

Austrian Successes.

Vienna, March 11th. Austro-Hungarian troops conquered Russian positions at Gorlice, in the Carpathians and at Nadworna; 1332 prisoners were made and large quantities of war material captured.

The Battle in the Champagne.

Berlin, March, 11th. Since February 17th, the French tried to break through the German lines in the Champagne with the intention of weakening the German offensive in Russia. Fighting was in progress almost continuously day and night. Not less than six French Army Corps have been thrown against the German positions along a front of about 5 miles, which was defended by two divisions of Rhenish troops only, later supported by units of guards and other battalions. Almost incredible was the extent to which heavy artillery was employed against the German positions, very often over 100,000 shells during 24 hours. In spite of this bombardment and of the six-fold numerical superiority of the charging French lines, the Germans did not only repulse the enemy's attacks, but undertook counterattacks, in which 35 French officers and 2450 men were made prisoners. The total loss of the French is estimated at 45,000 men, three times as many as the German losses in this unparalleled three weeks battle. The German positions in the Champagne are now stronger than ever. This result is due to the Commanders, Col-General von Einem, General Riemann and General Fleck just as much as to the heroic courage of the men.

Great Britain's Merchant Fleet Breaking Up.

Berlin, March 11th. From August 1st, 1914 to March 1st, 1915 the British merchant fleet lost in all 111 steamers and two sailing vessels with a total tonnage of just over 400,000 tons. The ships, interned in German, Austro-Hungarian and Turkish ports are not included in this number. The largest of the ships lost is the Van Dyck (10,328 tons) If the vessels, employed as auxiliary cruisers, mine-layers and transports are included, the loss amounts to 130 ships of 437,839 tons. Since March 1st, more ships have been destroyed by mines and submarines. Following are the latest reports:

London, March 11th. The British Admiralty announces that the steamer *Tangistan* was torpedoed near Scarborough, the *Blackwood* near Hastings and the *Princess Victoria* near Liverpool. The crews of the latter two vessels were saved, of the crew of the *Tangistan* only one man.

Rotterdam, March 11th. The steamer *Beethoven*, chartered by the Admiralty as coal transport was sunk by a torpedo off Dover.

Rotterdam, March 11th. Nine English steamers on the Dutch and Scandinavian routes have been reported as overdue between March 1st and March 6th.

Rotterdam, March 11th. Dutchmen, who have returned from England state that a rumour is current in Liverpool, according to which a Cunard of 30,000 tons was torpedoed 32 miles west of Liverpool. Steamers and torpedo-boats succeeded in towing her into port. This is kept strictly secret in England to prevent passenger traffic to America being disturbed.

London, March 11th. The crew of the Boulogne trawler *Orisnez* was landed at Newhaven. Their ship was sunk by a German submarine off Beachy Head.

London, March 11th. From March 6th to March 17th not a single ship will leave American ports for England, as it would be difficult to have the cargoes discharged promptly.

German Submarine Sunk.

London, March 11th. It is announced by the British Admiralty that the German submarine U 12 was sunk by the destroyer Ariel. Ten men of the crew of 28 were saved.

Greek Crisis.

The situation likely to be made good and the King to carry out his wishes.

Athens, March 11th. King Constantine has entrusted M. Gunaris with forming a new Cabinet after M. Zaimos, unsuccessful attempt. M. Gunaris was luckier. He has already introduced his Ministry to the public by a manifesto, in which he proclaims absolute neutrality, as long as Greece's obligations towards her allies are not compelling her to interfere. Even in that case Greece will only decide upon war provided her territorial possessions are not endangered.

Athens, March 11th. It is reported that the chief of the British Naval Mission, Admiral Kerr has asked Sir Edward Grey to recall this Mission.

Frankfurt a. M., March 10th. The well informed Constantinople correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung telegraphs, that according to trustworthy news received from Athens, there can no longer be any doubt but that the King will be able to uphold his policy of neutrality. That in spite of the popularity enjoyed by Venizelos, the Greek people do not wish to fight in the ranks with Hindoos. As for M. Venizelos, he has decided to retire for the period of one year to his native land, the Island of Crete, there to take a rest and seek to restore his much shattered nerves. That decision will go far towards a simplification of the situation.

Culebra's Pranks.

The ever moving mountain takes another dip into the bed of the great canal.

New-York, March 10. There appears to be constant trouble with the Culebra, a mountain which owing to being composed of volcanic rock, was terribly hard to blast in the first instance, and now keeps constantly moving bodily into the bed of the canal. A further fall, the second in a short while, has just taken place. As a result only smaller ships can pass.

Large Booty.

Köln, March 11th. The Kölnische Zeitung reports from Saarbrück concerning the great amount of booty which the 21st army corps captured from the Russians within a period of three days. It included 84 cannon, 30 machine guns, uncountable munitions and transport waggons, several thousand horses, 24,000 men and 200 officers. The above mentioned booty has been largely added to during the past few days.

Priest Murdered; Housekeeper Also Slain in Rectory. Two Killed in Parish Home of Lithuanian Church.

From our own Correspondent.

New Britain, Conn.—Shot and strangled to death, with thin, tough cords pulled tightly about their necks, the bodies of the Rev. Joseph Zebris, a Lithuanian Catholic priest, aged 52, and his housekeeper, Mrs. Eva Gilmanaitis, aged 35, who had tried to save him, were found today in the rectory of St. Andrew's church.

Hears Four Shots.

The police have a witness who says that, while returning from work he heard four shots fired as he walked past the rectory on Church street. On the floor of the ransacked library the police found four empty and one loaded cartridge shells.

The priest was shot twice in the left breast, the bullets piercing his black cassock but not burning the cloth. Then a strong piece of packing rope was drawn firmly about the neck to prevent resuscitation.

Mrs. Gilmanaitis, who, it is believed, ran to save the priest, was shot through the right forearm. Then the locked door of her room was smashed in with a wrench and she was strangled, three pieces of window cord being used.

Discovered by Teacher.

The murder was discovered by a school teacher, who had one of her pupils crawl through a cellar window and open the front door when the priest failed to open the parochial school at the usual time.

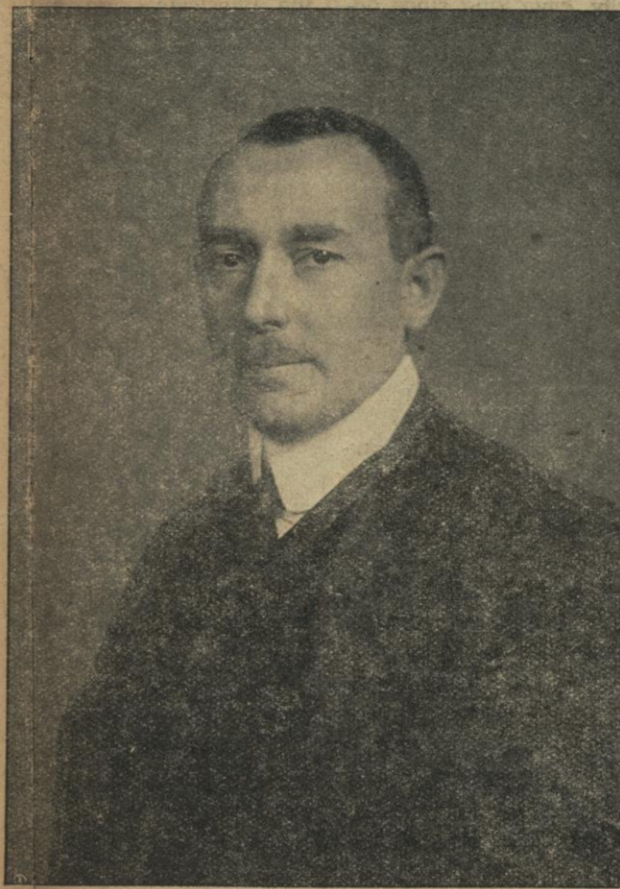
The Silver Bullet.

The newly appointed Secretary of Finance Dr. Helfferich makes a fine speech.

Wondrous prosperity.

Clear and convincing statements which show that Germany has all the money needed for the war.

By Aubrey Stanhope.



Wirkl. Leg-Rat Prof. Dr. Helfferich.

Had anyone entertained any doubts, as to the thoroughly sound financial condition of the German Empire, the same will be thoroughly dispelled after reading the remarkable, fine and conclusive speech made in the Reichstag, by the newly appointed Prussian Minister of Finance, Dr. Helfferich.

Those who know Dr. Helfferich, are not surprised that he should, in his maiden effort before the legislative body, deliver himself of a discourse which was bright, concise, elegant, and, at the same time so full of clear financial facts, that it was a masterpiece of practical presentation, which everyone can understand, as to the true and actual monetary conditions in which the Empire stands at this great crisis. The ringing applause which greeted Dr. Helfferich, at the conclusion of his long speech, was of an enthusiasm seldom heard within the walls of the Reichstag. It proclaimed that this war has developed yet another great man, grand master of the delicate art of finance.

True Patriotism.

As you know, prior to accepting his present high position Dr. Helfferich was president of that great Banking organisation the Deutsche Bank. That substantial and lucrative position he left at the call of his country. For, it was just as important to have the most capable financier at the head of the national treasury, as it was to have the most capable Generals to lead the army. It was pure patriotism which impelled Dr. Helfferich to accept the highly responsible position he now fills. As he said at the opening of his speech: "I felt that at such a moment I could not be small and refuse. The soldiers heart, which beats in every German breast, bade me, categorically, 'You must!'"

Vital points.

Now here are some of the principal points which Minister of Finance Dr. Helfferich made. That the budget this year would be four times as large as usual. That is to say, more than 13 billions of marks. The ten billions which the Reichstag was asked to vote, it was calculated, would be sufficient to finance the war till the end of the coming autumn. Ten billions, coming atop of ten billions already voted, was a sacrifice such as no parliament had ever been called upon to make. But the sacrifice of blood was yet greater.

Comparisons.

After commenting upon Lloyd Georges' boastful statement, that only England could furnish the necessary last million, Dr. Helfferich reminded the Reichstag that at the commencement of the war the Bank of England had been compelled to raise the rate of discount to 10%, whereas the Reichsbank went along quietly with a 6% rate. Further England had to decree a so called, week of Bank holiday, and adopt a moratorium. Here no such measures were necessary. Further that Germany's state credit

has held firmer than that of France and England. The French rentes, since the commencement of the war, have gone down 12 to 15 points, the German State loan 3 points, and English Consols 7 points.

In November, England had asked for a loan, of the formidable sum of seven billions of marks. Everything possible had been done to make it a success and all kinds of facilities for payment admitted. It was merely an apparent success, helped out by the Bank of England. The quotation of the German loan had steadily remained above par, 1 point above subscription price. The English loan had been unable to so maintain itself. Lloyd George has announced that no further loan would be needed till July; he now has to call for more money at Easter. France and Russia wanted a joint loan to cover their war expenses, without success. Russia had been formerly dependent upon foreign markets for money, those were now closed to her. France, just before the war, had floated a loan of 800 millions of francs, which was announced as being largely over subscribed. But when it came to paying, a great portion of the subscribers were found to be insolvent. The French market for capital is totally disorganised.

The gold reserve.

Dr. Helfferich said, that week by week, the gold reserves of the Reichsbank kept on augmenting, and were sure to continue doing so. But the gold reserve of the Russian National Bank had diminished and France's gold reserve, in spite of all efforts, is today no higher than at the commencement of the war. (The gold reserve in the Reichsbank has increased about one billion, since the commencement of the war—Ed) England has managed to support the gold reserve of the Bank of England, firstly by taking over some Russian millions, by acquiring the funds of the Belgian National Bank and by drawing upon Canada and Australia for 40 millions of pounds sterling, and had thus been able to bring it up to 70 millions. But it had since November run down to 57 millions.

Record resources.

Large balances are to be found in the German big Banks, and, in the savings Banks the record figures of 900 millions have been reached. In the French savings banks deposits have been reduced by 120 million of francs. In England, the sovereign has a discount of 3% as against doullars.

England had made the mistake of imagining that she could crush Germany by stopping her export trade and thereby starving her out. That was impossible. With just a little carefulness and economy and there was plenty of food to support the population.

The splendid example.

The Minister concluded:—"We have the splendid example of our brave soldiers. Let us show ourselves equal to them in tenacity

and discipline, let us feel with them as a people, and the result will come. Then we will hold out till victory is complete, till that honorable peace which will come as the price of our success which our vast sacrifices deserve. Then the German people will stand before the judgment of the world, and the future will belong to us." (storms of applause).

Witte Speaks.

Moscow, March 6. Count Witte in the course of a long speech, before the Russian congress, upon the gold agio, which is causing much anxiety in Russia, ended up his discourse by saying:—"We are interested in that the war should be ended as soon as possible. I am of that opinion the war will not last very long. Others say that it will last till 1920."

She works for herself.

According to one of the latest copies of the London Times, the idea that England went to war for the sake of defending the neutrality of Belgium, is thrown to the winds. In an Editorial that paper says:—"Even if Germany had not violated the neutrality of Belgium, England's honor and England's interests would have forced her to fight on the side of France and Russia. Although England had, until the last moment withheld any definite promises, she had years ago given those countries to understand that should they be unjustly attacked they could count on English help. England is proud to support Belgium and Serbia and to fight side by side with France and Russia, but she was working in the first line for her own interests, because Germany was seeking to destroy her commerce."

A Piece of good Advice to the Press.

Invasion of Privacy Condemned.

Oswald Garrison Villard of the New York Evening Post, grandson of William Lloyd Garrison and son of Henry Villard, has been talking to students in the University of Kansas school of journalism on some of the infelicities—to use no stronger word—of journalism in the United States. As a frequent speaker at public meetings and as a director of several important civic organizations he has occasion to watch the quality of the reports of his own and other men's speeches and of the narratives furnished the public of the workings of societies in which he is interested. His verdict is that nothing is injuring the standing of the press of the country more today than the inaccuracy of the work done by reporters. Responsibility for the condition, if it exists, rests with the superiors whom the reporters serve; for a discipline can be imposed that will insure accuracy provided either managing editors or the public insist on having it. The public's power lies in its ability to select between the accurate and the inaccurate paper.

Mr. Villard did not stop with a plea for more accurate reporting news, domestic or general, personal or corporate. He made the budding Kansas journalists see that contemporary methods go far beyond professional needs or social rights in exploitation of the doings of individuals and in invasion of privacy, a process not tolerated by the law or by public opinion in any other civilized land when carried to the degree practised by many journalists of the United States. In some communities the press is party to what is virtually social blackmail, preservation by individuals and families of rights formerly assumed to be inviolable now being possible only on the basis of paying tribute to journalistic brigands.

Of course where such organizations as journalists may have for promoting professional interests do their duty, offenders of this type at least lose professional caste, however free they are from legal prosecution. But it is from this latter source, we believe, that relief will come some day through action begun in lower courts and finally carried to the highest tribunal, which will test the assumed superior rights of the journalist to probe where he will, print what he will and pillory the innocent with the guilty.

Litigation is not the remedy. Resolute personal action by persons whose rights have been outraged by the journalistic offenders, can count, and has done so when tried. President Wilson last year served notice on the managing editors of the country through the Washington correspondents that he would go to the limit in protecting himself and his family—but especially his family—from those who had begun to intrude where no pressman had a right to peer, much less explore. His warning was effective.

The Continental Times

Published three times a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
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Zito! Zito! Zito!

It is right well, that all the peoples of the world should know and appreciate the great debt of gratitude which they owe to the main action taken by King Constantine, in refusing to allow his country to be drawn into a war; an intermission in the affairs of other nations, which could only have brought disaster upon Hellas. England appears to have at heart, the destruction of all the small Kingdoms. Already the government of which Sir Edward Grey forms part has, by means of promises which it was not in a position to make good, inveigled Belgium and Servia on to their ruin. In the most cynical declaration ever made by a Minister of State, Mr. Asquith has recently told that, after all England is waging this war in her own particular interests. Quite so! And he might well have added, "We are prepared to sacrifice all the other countries we can, to obtain our selfish ends." Had it not been for the wisdom and common sense of King Constantine, the Greeks; who if left alone and allowed to maintain peace, have such a brilliant future before them, might at this moment be embarked upon a war, which would surely have spelt ruin for them. That, of course, did not matter to Mr. Asquith and his government. In the terrible straits in which England finds herself today, with the noose ever tightening around her neck, deparingly she seeks, in order to get out of the tight corner in which she finds herself, to embroil other countries into the forlorn contest she has embarked upon. But she has failed in the case of Greece, so also has she been unable to achieve her Macchiavellian objects, in the same sense in the cases of Italy, Holland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark. America also is, late in the day as it may be, finally beginning to open her eyes, and realise the manner in which she has been deceived by British lies. But, to King Constantine, all hail! He acted as a man and a hero in the war, and led his people on to victory, and Greece has an enormous future before her. What she has gained by arms, that must she develop in peace. Which facts King Constantine recognised. And to that King of Greece all praise, all thanks from all men. For he has served, in a most signal manner the cause of peace. To him, out and out, belongs the Noble Prize for Peace, in the coming year, he has richly earned it! To King Constantine, Zito! Zito! Zito!

Financial Comparisons.

No comparison could be more striking than that of the recent declarations of Mr. Lloyd George in the House of Commons, with regards to England's finances; and the maiden speech made by the new Prussian Minister of Finance, in the Reichstag concerning the financial conditions existing in this country. The British Chancellor of the Exchequer in tone was vague, uncertain, secretive, evasive and told of appeals for money, upon the part of the Allies, which England was unable to enter into. Dr. Helfferich, on the contrary, was full of assurance, gave facts, told clearly of the quite extraordinary financial strength of the empire and gave figures to demonstrate the same.

Lloyd George was as a man who had everything to conceal. Dr. Helfferich as one who wished all to be known, who had a right good case and wanted everyone to know everything about it. And, undoubtedly, the tone adopted by the two controllers of the finances of their respective lands, reflected exactly the conditions existing in their respective countries. In England, in spite of braggadocio, the monetary situation is frankly bad. Even the British gold reserve, which has been bolstered up by calls of 40 millions of pounds sterling, from Australia and Canada; by millions from Russia, and the entire contents of the Belgian National Bank, has, since November, run down from £72,000,000 to £57,000,000. The English war loan, which had to be taken up largely by the Bank of England, because the public failed to subscribe, has never been able to maintain its issue price, whereas that of Germany has consistently stood one point over, and her gold reserve has increased the enormous amount of 1,000,000,000 of marks, since the outbreak of war, and as Dr. Helfferich said it is sure to go on increasing. In Germany the savings banks deposits, such a reliable barometer as to the well being of the population, show a high record of deposits, to the substantial sum of 900,000,000 marks. The new war loan, owing to the favorable financial situation, has been brought out one point higher than the first, which means ever so much as regards confidence in the situation. And all indications so far tend to show that it is going to be just as much a success as the first appeal to the public. Altogether, the Minister of Finance was clearly able to demonstrate that Germany, from the monetary point of view, is in a most enviable position and, that her overwhelming military strength is well balanced by her, so solidly built, financial forces.

Vienna Gay, Unique Among War Capitals.

By Harry Hansen.

Vienna, Austria. Vienna in war time presents the amazing spectacle of being the most unconcerned capital in Europe. The imperial city of the Hapsburgs, a dynasty likely to be vitally affected by the outcome of the war, seems to be, going about its daily business wholly oblivious of the fact that hundreds of its sons already have laid down their lives with "God, the Kaiser and the Fatherland" on their lips. Its streets teeming with activity; its stores brilliantly lighted, its cafes crowded and every one of its theaters open and well patronized—this situation, which would pass unnoticed in normal times, makes Vienna a city of absorbing interest.

Vienna is an enigma among the war capitals. London is dark and disquieted; Paris just creeping back into life like a convalescent soldier; Brussels beleaguered and starving; Rome (not yet a war capital but far from peace conditions) deserted by winter tourists. The thing that amazes me in Vienna is that there should be any life at all. Ordinarily it is not on the high road of travel, and the Americans who might have passed the winter in the city have long since deserted it.

Not a Flag in Sight.

On the day when I arrived in Vienna some weeks ago not a flag was flying from any of the buildings, either public institutions, hotels, hospitals or homes. Automobiles and cabs whirled through the streets displaying neither colors nor legends, unlike London, where virtually every cab bears small flags of the allies and posters calling on young men to enlist.

At the Grand hotel hundreds of guests in furs and top hats were just emerging from "5 o'clock tea," an English custom transplanted by the hotels to a city where coffee is served better than anywhere else in Europe. At the same time, a great part of the male population of Vienna crowded the cafes; the men sat so close at the diminutive marble top tables that their knees touched.

The streets were filled with men and women who were admiring window displays, and for several miles along the Kaerntner strasse, the Stephans platz, the Roten-Turm strasse and the Graben thousands jostled one another and laughed and chatted good naturedly. Not a person showed the pinch of penury.

Rich Refugees Add to Gaiety.

Vienna would appear considerably more like the other capitals if it were not for thousands of refugees from Galicia, many of whom mingle with the crowds in the streets and in the coffee houses. The poorer refugees from Galicia have found sanctuary in the smaller towns; the more prosperous men and women came to Vienna. Many of these have suffered grave losses, but still have enough money with them to make residence in the capital possible. They are not doing much spending, however.

"They like to look into the windows, but they buy very little," several tradesmen lamented to me. Yet the window dressings are brilliant and the quality and quantity of the objects on sale equal those in any of the capitals I have visited. This is especially true of leather goods, in which the Viennese exhibits are unusually rich. Vanity cases, handbags, dressing cases, picture frames, portfolios, valises and numerous "de luxe" articles in leather fill the windows.

One Store Has to Close.

Tradesmen said that the sales were far below what they would have been in peace times, but that, since the articles were more luxuries than necessities, they were satisfied. There was only one prominent store that found it necessary to close because of the war, a small art shop near the Kaerntner Ring, which displays a sign that it will be closed till the end of the war.

There are fewer objects referring to the war on display than might be expected. Those found are in the best of taste and show a high degree of workmanship. Jewelry stores display such novelties as rings with the Austrian cross as a signet, a bar pin of silver with the heads of the German and Austrian emperors in relief; small medals bearing the motto of the Austrian emperor, "Viribus Unitis." Particularly tasteful are the bronze medallions, some circular, several inches in diameter, some oblong and perhaps two by four inches or four by six inches in size, bearing in relief the heads of the two emperors.

War Books by the Ton.

The book stores, as elsewhere, specialize on war material, and it seems to me, after an inspection of the bookstalls of other capitals, that more books dealing with every conceivable phase of the war have been printed in the German tongue than in any other. Americans who know what a large output of war reading matter in English is available in any Chicago book store will wonder at this statement. They would be surprised if they could walk into a German or Austrian book store and behold the tons of printed matter relating to the war, including technical discussions, economic studies, political treatises, detailed considerations of military movements and the ordinary run of narratives. If the German public is not thoroughly grounded on every phase of European politics and war prepared-

ness it is not to be blamed on the makers of books.

It is to be supposed that in Vienna, where melody has its home, there are to be found plenty of patriotic songs, but even the displays in the music stores are not ostentatious.

War has left its imprint here and there in other trades, but only slightly, as for instance, the 42-centimeter chocolate bonbon, which is to bonbons what the gun is to other guns. But one has to search even to find this evidence of war's effect on the candy business.

Hospitals Not Conspicuous.

In nearly every other capital where wounded are being nursed back to health the hospitals are indicated by great Red Cross flags. Not so in Vienna. The presence of a hospital filled with wounded would not be observed by the passing stranger.

Hospitals there are in plenty, and in some instances schools have been converted into emergency quarters for soldiers. Neither the Red Cross flag nor the flag of Austria-Hungary flies above them. Unostentatiously, the physicians and nurses go about their task. That the great bulk of the Viennese are not indifferent to this work is evident from the generous donations to the Red Cross and the bureaus of public welfare work, as well as the assistance given in person wherever needed.

America's Awakening.

Large sums of money for coast defences. The Japanese peril being at last realized.

New-York, March 9th. In reply to the large credits voted in Japan for mobilization there has been a general wakening up of the officials of the war department in Washington. It is realized that the situation of the United States, having so large interests in China, is difficult. Many people believe that England is behind the whole trouble and is abetting the Japanese in their coercive intentions respecting China. To America it is all essential that the integrity of China should be maintained, and Washington is making diplomatic declarations in that sense through her Ambassador M. Guthrie, in Tokio.

According to the London Times large transports of munitions of war and cannon are being made along the Californian Coast, as also to Texas, Florida and the Panama Canal. All further work upon the Panama Canal has been suspended and vast supplies of concrete are being forwarded for the purposes of building fortifications, and laying foundations for batteries, along the coast.

President Wilson has signed a number of bills which provide for the expenditure of a million of dollars to be expended upon coast defences.

Secretary of State Bryan has expressed himself thoroughly satisfied with the contents and tone of the last German reply to the American note.

The New York World writes:— For a century the United States and Great Britain were the protectors of civilization and the right of the people. When the United States protests against the impolitic note of the British government, she is doing none a less service than the British government itself. The British paper blockade, which is directed against the neutrals, can be just as little tolerated as the German war area.

British Trade in War.

In 1914 the foreign trade of Great Britain, imports and exports, amounted to £1,223,000,000, or, say, \$6,000,000,000. This compares with £1,403,600,000 in 1913 and £1,343,600,000 in 1912, but is almost up to the 1911 total of £1,237,000,000, and slightly ahead of the 1910 return of £1,212,000,000. Of the decrease of £180,000,000 last year all but £10,000,000 took place after the war broke out, and nearly all of this balance must be attributed to the disturbance caused thereby. Here is a shrinkage of, say, £170,000,000 in five months.

British critics are disposed to take comfort from the fact that the decrease was no greater. When it is remembered that Britain's heavy trade with Germany was completely stopped by the war, it must be conceded that a decrease in total business of less than fourteen per cent for a year which included five months of hostilities is by no means sensational. Had Germany, instead of England, secured command of the seas doubtless the returns would have read differently. The most encouraging feature of the trade report is that whereas, compared with the 1913 totals, September showed a loss of £32,000,000, October £38,200,000 and November over £32,500,000, in December the decrease was £20,600,000—re-exports excluded in all cases. In exports the December loss was £17,000,000, against £20,150,000 in November. The decrease in imports in December was only £13,360,000, as compared with a loss of £12,480,000 in November and of over £20,000,000 in October. But as this apparently favorable showing was due considerable measure to higher prices of foodstuffs it was dearly bought.

German Princes and Where They Are.

The Crown Prince commands Fifth Army (General von Knobelsdorf as chief of the staff) fighting round Verdun, and district of the Woivre and heights of Meuse. Prince Eitel Friedrich commands First Brigade Prussian Foot Guards. Princes Adalbert and August Wilhelm attached to the Headquarters Staff; latter now home recovering from a motor-car accident. Prince Joachim is ordnance officer in Eleventh Army Corps, under General von Plüskow. He has returned to duty, after recovering from wound received at Schaeztels, Eastern Prussia. Prince Henry of Prussia also attached to General Staff. His son, Waldemar, commands the fleet of imperial motor cars. Sons of Prince Friedrich Leopold are serving in Prussian Husars of the Guard.

Kings of Bavaria, Wurtemberg and Saxony stay at home, with occasional visits to the front. Crown Prince of Bavaria commands Sixth Army, Duke Albert of Wurtemberg, Fourth Army, has three sons at the front. King of Saxony has three sons on active service. Prince Max, a professor of theology at Freiburg, is tending wounded of Twenty-Third Division. Prince Konrad of Bavaria has been wounded leading his regiment into action. Prince Wilhelm of Wied, is major on staff of Prussian cavalry division. Prince Friedrich Karl of Hesse commands Eighty-First Regiment of the line, Duke Ernst of Saxe-Altenburg the 153d, Prince of Schaumburg-Lippe the Fourteenth Hussars, to which regiment Prince Henry XXXIII of Reuss belongs. Grand Duke of Hesse, Duke of Brunswick (son-in-law of Kaiser) and Prince of Waldeck are with their own armies, have left the Government of their States in the hands of their consorts.

Other princes at the front are the Princes of Lippe, Charles Antony of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, and Duke Ernst Gunther of Schleswig-Holstein, brother of the German Emperor. The list was larger when war broke. Two princes of Lippe, two of Meiningen, one each, Hesse, Reuss and Waldeck, have been killed; one Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen is prisoner.

German Chancellor on the Causes of the war.

Explanation to America.

From our own Correspondent.

New York. Mr. James Creelman, a leading American journalist, who died suddenly in Berlin, secured an interesting interview with the German Imperial Chancellor shortly before his death, and this interview, has been published here.

The Chancellor says he was with the Kaiser day and night previous to the war.

"The inward strain of his night and day effort to save the peace of the world; to save not only his own people but the other peoples of Europe from the unspeakable suffering and loss of a general war, was an event which changed the ordinary expression of his face."

"Again and again," says the official version of the Chancellor's interview, "the Kaiser was described as 'the world's greatest peace lord.' We sat," continued the Chancellor, "at table together, working, working for peace. I saw the Kaiser change word after word in his telegraphic appeal to the Tsar. I saw him show absolute mental agony as he hesitated between one word and another, seeking with an eagerness impossible to describe to select the very word that might most influence the Tsar to save Europe from the horrors of war."

Italy will keep quiet.

Very important decision which comes of the wise attitude adopted by Greece.

Milan, March 10. How very important it was that Greece should maintain strict neutrality, is shown by the announcement, that, in consequence of the recent Hellenic decision, Italy will surely not take any action. Further it is now well known, that had Greece broken neutrality, not only Italy, but also Roumania and Bulgaria would surely have come into the war sphere. Thus the frantic diplomatic efforts of the Triple Alliance to stir up further complications for the world at large have utterly failed, and King Constantine has done a great deed for good.

This won't do!

Seizure of large depots of petroleum belonging to the Standard oil company. Constantinople, March 10. Protest has been made by the representatives of the Standard Oil Company, against the seizure by an English warship, in the harbor of Dedeagatch of 300,000 cans of petroleum. The United States Ambassador has reported the matter home and it is understood that the American government has formerly protested against this illegitimate action and demanded a restitution of the property. As Dedeagatch is a Bulgarian harbor, the taking of the oil is all the more unjustified.

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— best situation in large Park. —

The Open Tribune.

Letters from our readers.

To our Readers!

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

To the Editor of the Continental Times.

Let me congratulate you on the excellent War Book which you issued. The choice is excellent. Kindly send me 10 copies for the enclosed amount. I want to send them to my American friends

Yours very sincerely

L. M. Simson, Lugano.

To the Editor of the Continental Times.

Your paper is exquisite. The change it underwent since outbreak of the war is admirable. The War Book contains the finest collection of articles, and I wish all my friends could read them. I enclose you a list of addresses and ask them to send to each of them a copy of your War Book.

Yours truly

Wh. Ouscen, Vevey, Grand Hotel.

To the Editor of the Continental Times.

Let me congratulate you on your excellent War Book. I consider the finest article that of Prof. Th. C. Hall.

Yours truly

R. Munich.

To the Editor of the Continental Times.

A suggestion! Could you bring out the War Book in French and Italian so that all neutrals may read the opinion of neutral, sensible men on the war.

Yours truly

J. M. Mailes, Amsterdam.

To the Editor of the Continental Times.

Dear Sir, The book is so fair that I send it away to Chicago. So please send me another one. I remain yours very truly

Seimour Millais Stone, Munich.

Editor of the Continental Times.

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Are the Channel Dreadnoughts put to use in capturing your copies? There is no telling what the English Admiralty would do. You can be sure they don't like your paper. It's the best of recommendations, so please see that copies get to all my friends in U.S.A. and in the Far East. We at home look with interest for your paper and nothing would please us more than if some day it would appear on the breakfast table every morning.

Yours very sincerely

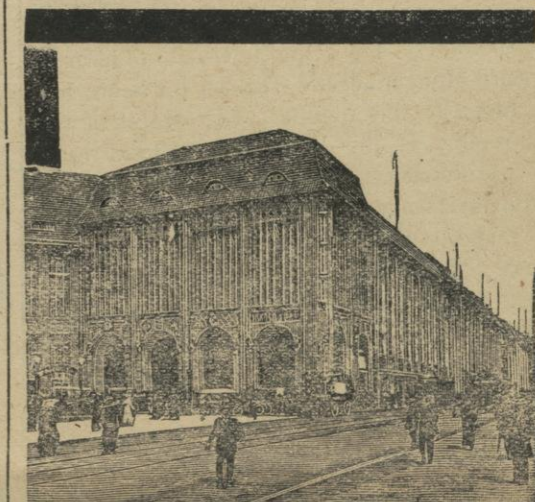
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Realistic forecast.

Sir Lonsdale Hale's remarkable essay in the Aldershot News forecasting present events.

Ideas that proved true.

An article of unusual historical and political interest at the present time.

A very remarkable essay was read by the Colonel Sir John Lonsdale, to the officers of Staff College Camberley, which, seen in the light of present events, is of unusual historical and political interest. It gave a forecast of the results of the crisis which occurred in 1912. Some of the principal points made were as follows:—

What has the future in store for Europe during the next five years? That is the question which many people are asking themselves, and which can be best answered in Berlin. From 1850 to 1870 European politics were more or less centred in Paris; they then shifted to London until after the Boer War, but since then they have established themselves firmly in Berlin.

The greatest Powers.

To-day the destinies of Europe are controlled by Germany and Great Britain; the other Powers are merely the pawns which are being used on the European chess board, on which is being fought the final, and, as yet, bloodless campaign, which is to decide whether the world is to be ruled politically and commercially by Germany or England. I have been constantly backwards and forwards to Germany during the last seventeen years, and many of the greatest friends I have are Germans, belonging to the highest official circles. I have had exceptional opportunities afforded me of studying very closely Germany and the German nation. I venture to believe that she is now the greatest Power in the world, and this is not merely my opinion, but that of the majority of European countries.

Nowadays.

Great Britain formerly exercised the greatest influence over the Chancelleries of Europe, but that of Germany now carries greater weight. The reason is, that Europe has awakened to the fact that although England is still supreme on the sea, and ranks first in the commercial world, she is a fifth-rate military power, as her Army is no larger than that of a fifth-rate State. Consequently, she is powerless to assume the offensive on land against a first-class military power. In this respect, the German Empire is her superior, and is undoubtedly the greatest military state in the world: thus, as her frontiers are contiguous to those of the other most important European countries, the influence she exercises over them is bound to be greater than that of England.

Alliance and Entente.

At present European affairs are managed by two political cliques, namely, the Triple Alliance, consisting of Germany, Austria, and Italy, and the Triple Entente, composed of Great Britain, France, and Russia; but these alliances may undergo considerable changes in the near future. France, England's former bitter enemy, has become her firm friend and ally. Both countries have wisely come to realise that unless they bury the hatchet and unite, they are bound, sooner or later, to be crushed by the Austro-German Confederation. Nearly twenty years ago Russia allied herself with France because she required money, with which the French were able and willing to supply her; and also because France, being at that time most antagonistic to England, her policy with regard to the latter suited Russian aspirations admirably in the Near East.

Germany must expand.

British foreign policy in the past has been undoubtedly responsible for the strained relations which exist between both countries to-day. Hitherto Great Britain appears to have ignored the fact that it is an utter impossibility to prevent the expansion of a country like Germany, possessing the finest army in the world, and a population of sixty-six millions, and to dictate to her what policy she is to adopt. Of late years, any attempt on Germany's part to obtain external commercial or territorial concessions has always been met by howls and execrations from the British and their Press. Whether the question at issue concerns some small island in the Pacific, a railway concession in Asia Minor, or a strip of Africa belonging to nobody, the suspicious and panic-stricken British public always imagines that Germany has some deeply laid scheme.

Although Germany's primary object in possessing a powerful fleet is not in the very least directed against England, if, however, the latter persists in her present blocking policy with regard to Germany's Colonial aspirations, there is certain to be trouble before long.

Germany and France.

France is the real thorn in Germany's side, because it is she who owns those countries, namely Algeria, Tunis, and now Morocco, which might otherwise have proved most valuable and easily accessible over-sea German possessions. It is, therefore, against France, and not against England, that Germany's preparations are being made, as she has everything to gain by waging a successful war against her weaker neighbour.

The next War.

If Germany is forced into a war she will strike quickly and hard; and if England remains neutral, Germany has not the least intention of attacking her. But if she supports France, and she will doubtless do so, then Germany's full force will be directed against both countries.

Her objective, however, will not be London, as the British believe, but Paris. Once she has crushed the French armies, the small British field army, numbering 150,000 men, mobilizable in not less than a week after the outbreak of hostilities, and which is known as Britain's "striking force", could do nothing against the German hosts on the Continent.

In the last Franco-Prussian war, France was crushed by a rapid succession of decisive battles, before it was almost possible to realize that the war had commenced. This time she will not only be attacked from the east, but also from the north-east, as Germany will not hesitate to violate Belgium's neutrality. Probably the British Army will aid France to repel an attack from that quarter, and it will be the primary object of the Germans to try and smash the British force, once and for all.

French and German Armies.

British military experts declare that the French army is now superior to that of Germany, but the opinion of every foreigner I have ever spoken to on the subject is, that the German one is far superior to the French. It is to be feared that the British in their desire to see the French army superior, blind themselves to actual facts, and will only discover their mistake when at war with Germany. The discipline, training, and organization of the German army are much better than those of the French. On the other hand it is believed that the powers of endurance, marching capacity, and individual quickness and intelligence of the French troops are of a higher standard than those of the German troops; also that the French artillery is more efficient than the German. However, whether these surmises are correct or not can only be proved in war time.

Should the French be defeated again, it is certain that they would have to pay an even larger war indemnity than in 1870-71. Besides a heavy money payment, Germany would probably demand Algeria and Tunisia, and if England were still in a position on the sea to prevent Germany from taking possession of them, German troops would continue to occupy French soil until England recognized the terms of the peace. With France under the German heel, England, except on the sea, would be powerless. Moreover, after waging even a successful naval war, the losses in ships which she would be sure to suffer would seriously cripple her, and it is doubtful whether, at the conclusion of the war, she would still retain her two-power naval standard.

Great Britain and France have everything to lose by a war, whilst Germany has everything to gain. It has been entirely due to the personal efforts of the Emperor on the side of peace, and also to the natural pacific temperament of the German nation, that there has not been war between France and Germany long before this.

Conscription for Great Britain.

It is incomprehensible, knowing that a defeated France would be disastrous for Great Britain, that the British public should continue to refuse to adopt the Continental compulsory military system, which would enable its Government to put a million men in the field in time of war to aid the French, and which would consequently alter the entire European military and political situation, by restoring to England and her ally their former powerful and influential positions in the arena of European politics.

Hotel Esplanade.

Amongst those recently seen at the Hotel Esplanade have been Prince and Princess Hatzfeldt, Princess Drucki-Lubecki, Consul General St. John Gaffney, Princess Hans Hohenlohe Oehrlingen, and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Jackson, His Excellency Freiherr Mumm von Schwartzstein, Consul General and Mrs. Lay, Princess Frederick Karl v. Hohenlohe, and her daughters, the Special Spanish Mission, with Ambassador Gaytan de Ayala, here in connection with the French prisoners.

Prince Hans v. Hohenlohe Oehrlingen has left the Esplanade, having gone on a trip to Constantinople, whither he has gone with donations for the Turkish Red Crescent association. His two daughters are engaged here in Berlin, daily attending the Hedwigs Sanatorium and tending the wounded returned from the war.

Grand Hotel Baglioni
Bologna—Florence

Biting on Granite.

Many English ships hard hit by the guns from the outside forts which remain effective.

Deceiving the Public.

How the Daily Telegraph throws dust into the eyes of its readers and misleads them sorely.

Rotterdam, March 10. The English are just beginning to realize what a difficult task the attempt to take the Dardanelles is. Apropos the Daily Chronicle writes that the warships of the Allies have two great difficulties to deal with in the Dardanelles. In the first place the Turks have laid an enormous number of mines in the waterway and which it will take a long time to fish out. Also the Turks use field mines which are carried away by the stream out to sea. Those mines settle about the point of the cape and form a great danger to warships. Further the batteries of the enemy, which are very cleverly concealed, are used with great accuracy.

Hard hit.

The Gaulois newspaper tells that the Agamemnon (19,000 tons) and the Nelson, (19,000 tons) have been hit three times in succession and likewise the Gaulois, (11,300 tons). From other sources we know that the Dublin, a quite new speedy British cruiser, 5,500 tons, has received four ten centimetre shots whilst coming in too near range, off Bulair. The English aeroplane No. 172 was hit 28 times and the No. 7, eight times. As already reported the Queen Elizabeth, 28,500 tons, the newest of the line of battle ships of the British navy has been damaged, as also the French Suffren, (12,370 tons); and the Canopus (13,150 tons) the Irresistible (15,250 tons). The Albion (13,150 tons) has been badly hit.

Bosh.

A few days ago the Daily Telegraph was telling its readers that the guns of the outside forts of Dardanelles were no use, that the fortresses themselves were demolished and that the English forces had safely landed on the Turkish coast and were comfortably entrenched in their positions. In view of the many lame ducks of the British ironclads, those statements now sound comical. The same paper goes on to say that the British guns are ever so much superior to the German, and, in an editorial, publishes the following nonsense.

"The important Turkish forts at the entrance of the Straits—Sedd-ul-Bahr and Kum Kale—were demolished because their fire was hopelessly outranged. The garrisons have fled from the ruins and left the coast clear for our landing parties, who established themselves without difficulty in the absence of any real opposition."

According to authentic news, the outer forts are only very slightly damaged, no mines have been removed at all, and not a single ship of the Allied fleets has passed, or indeed come near, the narrows, where the really strong forts are. Yet the Editorial writer of the Daily Telegraph grandiloquently continues:—

More pathos.

"The peril is indeed coming near to the very doors of the capital city, for when once the Franco-British Fleet has passed Nagara and the "Narrows" its main difficulties have been surmounted, and the broader waters of the Sea of Marmora will afford comparatively plain sailing. We do not underestimate the peril of the mines, and, of course, we shall have to face the probability of some loss. But the success gained hitherto is the earnest of future victory, and we have little doubt that troops are being located in favorable positions for an advance when the hour strikes."

In feeding the unfortunate and gullible British public upon such misleading statements as the above, The D. T. is really surpassing its well earned reputation for painting its word pictures, in screaming and impossible colors.

Russia's Finances.

The Geneva correspondent of the Rundschau telegraphs that the financial measures taken by the French Minister of Finance Ribot, in order to supply Russia with money, have been made necessary by the terrible difficulties which Russia stands on account of the complete stagnation of trade existing throughout the country. Owing to the failure of export trade Russia has been totally unable to pay the bills, for the immense orders for munitions of war given out in France.

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Popular Sentiment in Russia.
Events in Galicia will be decisive.

By Dr. Hans Uebersberger,
Professor of History of Eastern Europe
at the University of Vienna.

Vienna, March 9th.

It is very difficult to form, at a distance, an opinion, even approximately correct, of the sentiments prevailing in another country, and all the more is this the case when a state of war exists and the publication of undesirable views is suppressed. To sit at one's desk and attempt to form a judgment upon the sentiments existing in Russia seems therefore little less than presumptuous. And yet perhaps it is not altogether so. Under the pressure of a rigid censorship, which has existed for decades, the Russian journalist has become exceedingly skillful in indicating indirectly that which he dares not write, and the public, for their part, have acquired an extraordinary ability of reading between the lines. If one is familiar with both these facts and possesses besides a large fund of material gathered from observation, one can form even at a distance a tolerably correct opinion of the feelings existing in Russia.

Paul Miljukow, who is not merely the leader of the Cadet party, but in a certain sense the mouthpiece of the intelligent classes in Russia, has himself said that the Russian government shortly before the outbreak of the war, found itself facing a general internal discontent, which had become noticeable through strikes accompanied by noisy demonstrations, and which could at any moment have developed into a general uprising. The revolutionary forces which had been accumulating were skillfully directed by the Russian government against the foreign enemy. At the very beginning of the war also, in order to meet existing conditions, a conciliatory manifesto was prepared, as has leaked out from Duma sources, which is said to have gone much further than that of October, 1905. England however having entered the war with such surprising rapidity, it was considered no longer necessary to grant such concessions to the people, and the manifesto was withdrawn on the brink of publication.

The Russian government than had recourse to a much cheaper expedient to arouse popular sentiment.

They started a hue and cry against the Germans. The newspapers "Novoje Wremja", "Russkoje Slowo", the organ of Russian industrial circles, "Utro Rossij" and a whole row of others in the capital and in the provincial cities fell foul of the Germans. It was all the same whether they were German and Austrian subjects, or German colonists and Bala's whose families had been for centuries loyal Russian subjects and who were even then shedding their blood for "holy" Russia.

The instincts of Pan-Slavism, the competition of German industry and the inherent dislike of German activity, conscientiousness, honesty and perseverance lay at the root of this persecution of the German inhabitants, a persecution encouraged and demanded by the higher authorities. This appears all the more surprising when it is considered that scarcely a drop of other than German blood flows in the veins of the present representatives of the Russian dynasty.

When the military successes were not such as were expected, when the victorious march towards Vienna and Berlin came to a standstill, when the war continued to lengthen itself out, and the sacrifices demanded continued to increase, a spirit of discontent soon arose among the Russian people. How great this is, especially in the principal cities, and above all in St. Petersburg, where almost every family has lost a member in the battles around the Masurian lakes, cannot be estimated; it is in any case considerably greater than appears in the press in some out of the way places. In these one can only perceive the fact of its existence. The "Novoje Wremja" is always endeavoring to console itself and others with the "great victory" which is to be won. A "great victory" and no one will call a victorious government to account. But this "great victory" does not take place; on the contrary another great defeat at the Masurian lakes has been suffered. We are not laboring under any delusions however, and only the expulsion of the enemy from Galicia will be decisive for the public opinion of Russia.

Telegrams, manifestoes, car-loads of priests and police have been sent into Galicia, and repeated reference has been made to the great national success which would attend the incorporation of "Red Russia" in the empire; and in this way the Russian government with the Czar at its head, has so involved itself with the holding of this region that a defeat here would be the most difficult to conceal and would soon be known far and wide. All other events can during the war be concealed or misrepresented, for the Russian government and general staff are masters at this, as one knows from the Russian-Japanese war.

This is the crucial point of the position, and that it begins to become in the highest degree uncomfortable for the government and for those guilty of the war, cannot be concealed, despite the artistically staged session of the Duma. From the ministerial bench and from the ranks of the different parties the speeches in the Duma were phrased

as if the bear was already slain and it was only necessary to divide the skin. The impression which these speeches make is that of a certain naivete mixed with malignity. This recent session of the Duma has furnished the best evidence that Russia had for a long time past determined upon this war in order to get possession of the Dardanelles and the adjacent territory.

That the parliamentary comedy was also intended to assist the mission of Bark in his search for money is a matter of course. Announced in the Russian press with great assurance, the result of this quest has remained far behind the expectation. Even the "Nowoje Wremja" can only with a sorry face hold out hopes of future arrangements. And yet money is badly needed in Russia; living is becoming dearer, and new taxes cannot be imposed, for so many have been laid on since the beginning of the war that the ability to pay them is decreasing. The most necessary labor for preparing the soil for the next crop is wanting, so that one is already beginning to think of employing the prisoners for this purpose. In a word, present conditions in Russia are not rosy, and the Russian people, despite the assurances of the general staff and of the diplomatists, have no belief that the future will be better because they have so often before been deceived.

The above is but a slight sketch, given with all reserve of the feelings prevalent in Russia, and I have omitted some shadows from the picture that would throw more into relief what has been presented.

From Germany to America.

1915.

A world in flames, a sea of blood,
A solemn, awful dread,
As slowly mounts the crimson flood,
That brings to us our dead;—

Betrayed, misjudged and vilified,
We make no weaking's cry;
A million of our sons have died,
A million more may die;

But finally the Slavic hosts
Must sullenly retire,
And on proud Albion's far-flung coasts
Shall wane her baleful fire.

Meanwhile, why stand you thus aloof,
With cold, averted eyes?
Have you accepted without proof
Our foes' unnumbered lies?

"Neutrality" is on your lips,
"Peace" smooths your every breath,
Yet you are loading countless ships
With instruments of death,—

To slaughter us, who freely lent
Our aid to win and save
The freedom of your continent,
The Union of the brave!

What harm to you have Teutons done
Their records do not show
The burning down of Washington
A hundred years ago!

They never counseled Indian tribes
To light war's lurid fires,
Or tempted red-skinned chiefs by bribes
To kill and scalp your sires!

Nor did they in your arduous years
Of fratricidal war
Drive off with hostile privateers
Your flag from every shore!

But why contend? A day may come
When you, a threatened State,
Will need the friend you spurn today,
And find it then . . . too late.

Then shall you curse the fatal hour,
When you refused his hand,
And gave the Slav and Briton power
To crush the Fatherland.

John L. Stoddard.

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March 12, 1915

THE CONTINENTAL TIMES

Supplement

America's Attitude. Address by Dr. W. S. McNeill of the Bar of Richmond, Virginia, at a mass meeting. Germany's Position. Has the United States remained neutral? The Orator thinks not quite and gives his reasons.

A native born American, a member of the Richmond Bar, who studied several years in Germany, Dr. W. S. McNeill, teacher of law in the Greater Richmond College, has addressed a mass meeting in Richmond, upon the question of America's neutrality and Germany's position, as follows:—

Our Government is neutral, and our President has asked us also to be neutral. But we have not wholly succeeded. Lines, too sharply expressed and drawn, are among us, and may not be without serious results for us.

It behooves us, therefore, to acquaint ourselves with all the facts and to be sure of our ground, before we do anything else in this war matter. Reasonable freedom of opinion, and of the expression thereof, is proper; certainly when presented in fairly temperate form. The achievement of those ideals is not claimed for the following. In this hour of stress and storm, however, your invitation is thankfully welcomed by one who is by blood directly connected with the Scotch element among the Allies, who has no earthly interest in the cause of the Germans; but who lived some time with them, knows something about them, speaks his tongue, and does not hesitate to side, within limits, with the minority opinion about them.

States of American Opinion.

American opinion about the present war is by no means irrevocably established. The shudder caused by Japan's entrance upon the scene; the apprehension concerning the use of African and East Indian troops against the white race; the fear as to the ultimate ascendancy of Russia; the growing doubt of dispatches from interested sources, all have combined to cause the American mass opinion to pause.

American opinion, from the beginning, has by no means been unanimous. It is evident that Americans of German extraction, though even remotely; that those of Scandinavian descent; that the anti-English Irish element; that those who have known the Russian knout; residents of the Pacific Coast, who have an eye to Japan; and that that comparatively small, but influential group of Americans, who were really educated in Germany—are all somewhat a compact phalanx in favor of Teutonic culture (and all that that means) as contrasted with that of some of its would-be destroyers.

The prevailing American opinion, however, as expressed in the press and privately, is undoubtedly pro-British, and, for the sake of necessary consistency, it must also embrace, no matter how awkwardly, all of England's allies. Now, why is that so?

Causes of American Opinion.

In the North, the newly-rich are fond of England's leisured, idle-class society, which aristocracy is reputed to be open at the bottom. In the South, there is a considerable remnant of plantation gentle-folk, particularly those of the Episcopal faith, who find most congenial the country house and city club of the English gentleman. Among lawyers, the great system of the common law, forming as it does the very basis of American institutional life, is the creator of a tender and admiring affection. Statesmen and politicians cannot but revere English parliamentary history. English moderation and success in colonial government are appealing to American love of local self-government. And, above all, the common language. This latter applies not only in conversation, but also in reading scientific productions, novels, plays, magazines, and newspapers.

Those are actual, fundamental causes of constant American opinion. There are, however, lesser, more superficial, more ignorant bigoted, and erroneous causes, all of which to-day wield a tremendous influence upon the every-day man. They are:

Civil and Criminal Oppression.

The belief that somehow France, being a republic, and England, having institutions similar to our own, stand for popular government; while Germany, and still more Austria-Hungary, stand for some mysterious power which prevents the realization of the wishes of the people.

This belief is accentuated by the number of uniforms seen by the non-German-speaking American tourist, who is accustomed to seeing uniforms worn only by scattered policemen, letter carriers, railway and street car conductors! It is not unusual for such a tourist to mistake a Feldwebel for a General, the fuss and feathers being, in times of peace, so promiscuous. Such a tourist has a beautiful imagination, but he is not a safe authority on foreign customs. Furthermore, when one remembers that tourists of all kinds make up a very small proportion of the American population, it is self-evident that even first-hand information, about the plight of the German people, is infinitesimal.

Lack of information.

As to those wishes being expressed in legislative form, there is again explanation, but much less excuse for American lack of information. It is a fact that both in England and France, a bourgeoisie democracy came about earlier than in Germany. This is typified by the German exodus to America

in 1848. That, however, was twenty-two years before the German Empire was born; and only about a decade before anything like real democracy came in England.

However, Carl Schurz and others stand out in the American mind as typical of German civil tyranny (having apparently meanwhile forgotten England's "tyranny" over Ireland, and the same exodus of the Irish to this country), whereas for about a quarter of a century there has been in existence an American book (Burgess, Comparative Constitutional Law), in which are compared and contrasted the Constitutions of the United States, England, France and Germany. The instruments themselves are there printed, and in some respects the German is found to be more democratic than our own. For example, this fundamental of all law, though strikingly similar in Germany and the United States, gives to our President more legal power than that possessed by the German Emperor. Specifically with reference to war, both the President and the Emperor are empowered to repel invasion, but neither may wage a foreign war without the consent of Congress on the one hand, of the Bundesrat (to declare war) and of the Reichstag (to provide the means) on the other hand. Truly, in 1900, during the Boxer rebellion, the Emperor on his own initiative sent troops to China, and later sought and got "indemnity" of the Reichstag. But also in 1914, our peaceful President sent troops to Vera Cruz, and was later supported by Congress.

President's power.

As shown by our present status, a President elected by a majority of the American voters, is nevertheless able to get enacted measure after measure of the utmost consequence; and this although the President has no positive but only negative legislative powers. So also in Germany, the Emperor has the same kind of legislative function. He has not even a party control of the Reichstag. That body is composed of 397 members, elected by a one-man vote, universal, secret, and direct ballot. The right to vote is held by every male over twenty-five years of age, and is not subject (as it is frequently here) to a property or educational test.

The present Reichstag contains 55 votes of the so-called Conservatives or "war party," a hopeless minority. On the other hand, there are 110 Social Democrats and about 100 Liberals, an absolute majority therefore of the German House of Commons.

A leading example of civil liberty law is called "social legislation." In that respect Germany has so long led the world in old age, sickness, disability, and lack of employment insurance, both national and municipal, that even England, under Lloyd-George, has found out about it and is introducing it, much to the woe of her aristocratic "democracy." There is no excuse for ignorance about this; it has been printed over and over again in England and America.

Next in importance to constitutional law and to special enactments, come the general civil and criminal laws that touch the everyday life of the people. In 1882 Germany started a large body of legal experts to work out and codify her civil law. After eighteen years of unremitting labor, all differences were solidified into the Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch, which, in 1900, became the private law of the land.

As a piece of workmanship, compare it with the almost superhuman duty imposed by Virginia in 1914 upon three Virginians, viz., of doing a similar work to be completed in two years. As a crystallization of human, not divine, justice, let our lawyers compare the German Code with the Federal statutes and decisions, or the legislative or judicial law of any of our States. Then we can get at something definite, not imaginary, concerning civil liberty in Germany. Here again there is no excuse for ignorance, because the German Code of 1900 has been reviewed in the Harvard Law Review, and other legal publications.

Finally, on this point, if German liberty is insecure, why do even the Social Democrats prefer it to the brand which Germany's enemies now propose to impose upon them?

Instead of being hateful to its own citizens, Germany has of recent years apparently been so attractive to them that emigration has practically ceased. Certainly there is much less emigration, proportionately at least, than there was sixty years ago, before this dreadful system one says "menaces all they hold dear." If this system "menaces" anybody, certainly it must menace the Germans.

My own life of over three years among them was a refutation at every hand of any unusual restlessness on account of civil oppression.

The less said by way of comparing German with American criminal law, the better for us.

Military Autocracy vs. Freedom.

And yet honest Americans will feel that there must be something in the charge that Germany is a military autocracy, and that England is now battling, not for her own interest, but for the freedom and liberty of the world. Why? Because where there is

smoke there is usually fire; and have we not read and re-read those charges in our daily companions—the newspapers?

Let me say parenthetically that I denounce emphatically the insinuation, made in wholesale, that the American press or its readers have any desire to mislead or misinform. There may be some of that class, but they are not typical. The true American journalist distinguishes between news and editorials. Indeed, even in the matter of headlines, it is a little unreasonable always to expect subsequent retractions to be placed as conspicuously as the original "report," the hoped-for truth of which fits in with the editorial policy of a given paper. For example, on September 14th a Richmond paper carried a heavy headline, reading, "Russians in Belgium beyond Shadow of Doubt"; on September 15th the same paper placed on the first page, but inconspicuously, the flat denial by the British government. Thus the Archangel Fable exploded like a toy fire-cracker, not like a roaring siege gun. But what is the difference? The newspaper editor is human, and doubtless attends to his business as well as we ours.

Newspaper influences.

But, now to return to the notion that our newspapers are influencing the average man to the "autocracy versus liberty" notion. Is it not more likely that England with her highly educated reportorial staff, with innumerable cable connections, with broad-spread interests and therefore representation in all the world, and with the use of our own tongue, is in better position to present the English view than is new, isolated, foreign Germany? Can that combination remain without influence upon our press, and consequently upon our people? Add to that the fact that the memory of the average newspaper reader is comparatively short, does it not come to a point where we may go back over the files and see whence comes this prevailing "autocratic-freedom" notion.

Up to the "Fashoda affair" in Africa, the British press informed us that France, though a republic in form, was in reality a corrupt, aristocratic, dangerous nation in arms. When France backed down, it was plain to England that that enemy of centuries, had become a harmless friend. Who thereafter became the continental bugbear for "free" England? Why, Russia. Until 1905 we heard of Russian atrocities, of Russia's treatment of the Jews and of the peasants, of the Czar's absolute and fearful military autocracy. Since Russia's fall in the East, and the consequent security of British India, Russia seems to have ceased being such a danger to freedom, but is now an ally in that cause.

On Systems.

Then began the systematic propaganda to the effect that the real destroyer of liberty is to be found in Germany. And now we have the freedom anthem written on the flags of France with her black African dependents, of Russia with her oppressed millions, of Serbia with her anarchists and regicides, of unknown Montenegro, of Japan with her suicides and ancestor worshippers, and of England with her Indian Hindoos and Mohammedans! Is that conglomeration not a travesty on the word freedom? Did Madame Roland say in vain, "Liberty, what crimes are committed in Thy name?"

How can allied Europe and Asia long expect common-sense America to believe that England is leading that motley horde, not for her direct interests, but for the whole world, including Germany herself!

The tide of information is already turning. See the letters, published by the *New York Evening Post*, some indeed by Englishmen who disdain any such flamboyant basis of this war. And see an editorial in a Richmond paper of September 15th, in which the opinion is expressed that that writer was beginning to believe that this war was caused, not by the Kaiser, as heretofore asserted, but by bungling German diplomacy!

Military Germany, Peaceful Allies.

Another cause of the prevailing American opinion is based on the charge that Germany is military and belligerent, while England is peaceful and unprepared.

The facts are:

Germany spends \$300,000,000 annually for military purposes, and is surrounded on practically every side by inimical powers, and is compelled to trace under the shadow of a naval power, the policy of which is to rule the sea, and brook no competition thereon. England spends \$450,000,000 annually for the same purpose, and is surrounded by no human power on earth.

Since Germany won her freedom and independence in 1870, she has been at war with no civilized people. Since England became an independent State, she has warred with Holland, Spain, France, Russia, the United States; in fact, with every power, great or small that has dared to stand in her way.

And see what an Englishman, now an American, has to say:

"If I were still a British subject, with my personal interest bound up with England's success, I might sympathize with England's desire to stand always where she stands to-

day, with the noose around Germany's commercial neck, always able to strangle German competition when she feels like it. In German eyes this is what English sea-dominance means."

England's Record.

Since 1870: England has conquered Egypt, shelled Alexandria, taken by force two Boer republics; it has added to its sphere, by force, southern Persia, and by intimidation a part of Siam. France has conquered Tunis, she is fighting for Morocco, she has made war on Madagascar, has tried to take the Soudan and conquered Indo-China in bloody war. Russia has fought the Turks in 1878 and the Japanese in 1904, she has torn from China the northern part of Manchuria and all of Mongolia, she has made war on Turkestan, she has bagged northern Persia, she has formed and fomented the Balkan combination and has all along proved herself the most aggressive European power."

A comparison.

Granting, however, that the wrongdoings of her neighbors does not abstractly excuse Germany, still how long will it take peacefully isolated Americans to realize what the military would mean to us if Canada were an armed Russia, or Mexico a vengeful France. Granting the right (if Russia is so advised) of the former, where is the ground for the latter? Alsace-Lorraine? Even school children know to what country those lands originally belonged. And why is not France just so vengeful against England for taking India, Canada, and South Africa?

Since German unity in 1870, she has acquired some isolated colonies, but all were added to her by peaceful agreement and by common consent of the Great Powers. Even that now being attacked by Japan, was leased, not conquered.

The excuse for Japan's recent action, accepted by the pro-allies' press and public, is that Germany prevented Japan from reaping the benefits of her war against China in 1895; and this is just retribution. The truth is, that act of Germany was done jointly by France and Russia, acquiesced in by England, as soon as she also received a slice of China.

And is not Germany's opposition to military disarmament equalled by England's refusal to destroy her navy? The joke of England's proposed naval holiday, deceives no informed German.

If such a thing as colonization is ever proper, surely Germany with an annual increase in population of about one million, with cramped quarters at home, with high ideals, with a culture second to none, with white skins, and vigorous bodies, is qualified in every respect, to share the few remnants still remaining.

Violation of Neutrality.

Belgium's neutrality is the final ideal on which our pro-British friends rely. Is it not strange that they have so misread Sir Edward Grey? Let us quote again:

"It is very often said that England entered into war in consequence of the violation of Belgium's neutrality. Sir Edward Grey has never stated that the breach of the Belgian neutrality was the reason, and even less, the only reason, for England's going to war. His theory as expressed in the House of Commons on August 3rd is contained in his quotation from Mr. Gladstone's address to the House of Commons on August 8, 1870. This quotation runs:

"There is, I admit, the obligation of the treaty, * * * but I am not able to subscribe to the doctrine * * * that the simple fact of the existence of a guarantee is binding on every party to it irrespectively altogether of the particular position in which it may find itself at the time when the occasion for acting on the guarantee arises. The great authorities upon foreign policy, * * * as Lord Aberdeen and Lord Palmerston, never to my knowledge took that rigid, and, if I may venture to say so, that impracticable view of the guarantee. The circumstance that there is already an existing guarantee in force is, of necessity, an important fact, and a weighty element in the case. * * * There is also this further consideration, the force of which we must all feel most deeply, and that is the common interests against the unmeasured aggrandizement of any power whatever."

No obligation.

"This means in so many words that the neutrality treaty did not obligate England to uphold it, and that it was Mr. Gladstone's as well as Sir Edward Grey's opinion that it should be upheld only if and because the particular interest of England commanded it. That it means also this, that the guarantee was not binding upon Germany either if its particular position did not permit of her holding it. Germany has offered Belgium integrity and indemnity, which she refused. Her particular position necessitated marching through Belgium, and this, according to Mr. Gladstone, she had a right to do. Ramsay MacDonald, the great English labor leader, attacking Sir Edward Grey in *The Labor Leader* of Manchester, comments very bitterly on this theory. He says (see *New York Evening Post* of September 8th):

The "Atrocities."

And as to the "atrocities." Knowing the German character, home life, tradition, good fellowship, and discipline as I do from personal association, I would not have believed those charges even if they had been sworn to by my own brother. (Lawyers have constant opportunity of hearing two equally honest citizens testify exactly opposite to each other. When the jury makes a finding one way, it necessarily discredits the evidence of one witness, but by no means his integrity. It is with that fact in view that the foregoing statement is made as emphatic as possible.) But fortunately the matter was this very morning (September 17th) put at rest. Alongside of the unspeakable slanders made yesterday to our President by the voluble Belgian Royal Commission, appears this morning the unbiased, complete refutation of the whole thing by the American Associated Press representative who speaks right from the front and of his own investigation. Be patient my friends, the truth will come.

Facts already mentioned show that history has made the German army a necessity, just as well as an all-powerful navy to England.

America's advantage.

It is to America's advantage that England should win. England has befriended us, Germany has tried to be our enemy. England respects the Monroe doctrine, Germany would not.

Those are becoming uncovered arguments in favor of the predominant attitude in the United States. If the first thereof is our real feeling, for the sake of common decency, let us say so, and no longer pose on any higher idea than self-interest. If there were no alternative between the destruction of England's navy and the disruption of the German Empire, the change in the world's affairs would be so great that reasonably conservative men would necessarily pause before welcoming such an unknown factor. But that is the gist of my complaint against one phase of England's foreign policy, viz., that a powerful Germany is in impossible conflict with England's existence. Supposedly England got her now long enjoyed pre-eminence through superior skill, character, intelligence, justice, and all of the things that make for success in this competitive world. Now, either England still possesses those powers and therefore can, and will deserve to, maintain herself; or she has lost or is losing them and therefore cannot, and does not deserve to retain her quondam pre-eminence. Certainly she has no right to be protected against fair competition in all of the activities of life. The progress of the world needs constantly new energy or renewed efforts from the old; and our interests cannot be out of tune with that universal factor.

Moreover, no matter how successful Germany may be this time on land, it is almost nonsense to couple with that any loss to England's control of the sea.

As to England's friendliness to the United States, it just happens that England and Spain are the only European countries with which we have ever had war. It also happens that, while the "Hundred Years of Peace" is a formal fact, it was still at England's expense to the Geneva tune of several million dollars, as a result of the doings of the English government when the very existence of the United States was at stake. At the same period of time, the activity of allied France was a striking contrast to military Prussia. The recent interruption of trade treaty relations with Russia, shows our attitude to that country. If those facts are outbalanced by the German admiral's doings at Manila, let the experts on friendship settle the account.

Real Neutrality.

It is unnecessary and out of place here even to mention the great virtues and achievements of Great Britain. Those facts are better known in America about her than of any other foreign power. So I say in this as in all world struggles:

"Let England destroy Germany if she can, just as she has done with other States in years ago; but let her do so frankly. For the benefit of her business and other interests and not on account of the bombastic claims of her press, which have all too long been accepted in quarters where better information is justly expected."

Only one Prophecy.

The Germany of to-day, which is waging war against practically the whole world, is no more like the helpless "Holy Roman Empire", than a living, breathing organism is like a fossil. The Germany of 1914 rejects with disdain the Utopian existence, shorn of political power, which her enemies say they are going to force upon her. Nearly one hundred years ago, Heine said: "France, to thee belongs the land; to England the sea; to thee, Germany, the air". That is the Germany her enemies would establish again. But that will not be. England, like Rome of old, may make of Germany another Carthage; and plough up the ground on which now stands the beautiful, most cleanly city in the world. *Aber ein zersplittertes Deutschland wird es nicht mehr geben!*

WAR DIARY.

March 1st 1915.

The German note replying to President Wilson's new proposals has been delivered today to, and forwarded by, Ambassador Gerard to Washington. I have the impression that both governments are on the road to arrive at an understanding satisfactory to all concerned. The only question is what the allies will do. It seems that England will not accept the arrangement proposed by the American government but insist upon the new scheme of confiscating all goods coming from, or destined for Germany on neutral ships, whether contraband of war or not. There can be no doubt that the United States could not stand such flagrant violation of every principle of fair trade. Under such conditions a sudden and far reaching change of public opinion in America is surely to be expected. Press utterances in England and France are already foreshadowing the decision of the two governments. Especially the French papers contain violent articles against America and President Wilson declaring that no intervention whatever could detain the carrying out of the most stringent measures towards completely cutting off Germany's connection with the outer world. The only question is how it will be done without getting into serious trouble with America.

Diplomatic circles talk of a combination of the three Scandinavian kingdoms and Holland together with the United States to protest against England's policy of disturbing neutral trade. They have protested before so often that a few more protests would have no effect. But if they should join the United States in concerted action, it would look more serious than mere paper protests by small powers. How little England cares for the neutrality of small countries is illustrated in a remarkable manner by an incident which is reported from Flushing. In the neutral port of Flushing the North German Lloyd steamer "Main" took refuge at the outbreak of the war and is still lying at anchor. On February 11th an English flying machine crossed over the port and dropped two bombs aimed at the steamer, fortunately both falling short.

The American steamer "Dacia" has been taken by the French and ordered to the port of Brest, where a prize court will decide the case. Evidently this has been prearranged between the English and the French because the British government has trouble enough with the case of the "Wilhelmina" and wants the French government to have its share also. Besides, the French laws are admittedly more clear and decided than the English which are dubious as usual, permitting different constructions as may be desirable. French shipping laws, it is said, forbid strictly and without restrictions the change of a ship's nationality during a war if it belongs to a belligerent country, which would cover the case of the "Dacia". But it seems to me that there is a hole in this argument. Even if French laws should be unmistakably clear about this point, France is a party to international arrangements arrived at in the Hague and London, and has explicitly declared that she would be bound by the London declaration which she had signed, although it had not been ratified on account of Great Britain's objections. And this declaration clearly admits a change of nationality under certain conditions met by the former and present proprietors of the "Dacia." That the French prize court will decide the case against the American owners of the "Dacia", is sure. French and English courts have shown no impartiality heretofore unless strong pressure had been brought to bear upon them, and none is to be expected in this case. So the American government will have to take up the controversy with England and France at the same time.

The Paris edition of the "New York Herald" reports that two American squadrons had sailed from the Atlantic for the Pacific coast, and that the American squadron in East Asia had been increased by six warships. The "New York Herald" is everything but reliable. Therefore, we have to wait for a confirmation or a denial of the story. But if it is correct, and there is no reason why it should not be, it would show that the American government realized the importance of events preparing in the far East.

The general staff contradicts reports of foreign papers that the German losses in Mazur amounted to over 100,000 casualties. It is stated that the entire German loss is hardly more than 15,000 men including lightly wounded—therefore insignificant compared to the Russian loss of over 100,000 prisoners and at least an equal number of killed and wounded.

Regularly as in peace time, the spring fair has been opened in Leipzig, with a large attendance of exhibitors, the accustomed procession of sandwichmen and crowds of people filling the streets. With just pride German papers point out that buyers from all neutral countries, among them Americans, have arrived and are giving orders, which does not look like a complete breakdown of German industrial and commercial life. The Americans have placed large orders for playthings, dolls etc. made in Sonneberg, and for drygoods, gloves etc.

March 2nd 1915.

The full text of the last two notes exchanged between the American and German

governments has been published officially. Combined with the preceding German note, these documents are bound to become of the greatest historical value and to play an important part in the international developments of the near future. I am most happy to observe that the tone of the notes is becoming more friendly each time and that a complete understanding between the two governments is already assured. The preceding German note had so clearly, so convincingly and so conciliatory in manner presented the German side of the case, that the effect was sure to be wholesome. As an American living in Berlin in a high position said to me: "As an old jurist I cannot help but sympathize with Germany," everybody appreciated the adroitness with which the note was composed. The reply on the part of America is held in the same spirit. It makes use of the closing sentence of the last German note indicating the willingness of Germany to desist from the severe blockade of England by submarine boats, if an arrangement could be made securing for Germany the unrestricted import of foodstuffs and raw materials. The U. S. government proposes to both, England and Germany, to agree that only securely anchored mines, be laid in the open sea at cannon shot distance from a port for defensive purposes, and that all mines be provided with an apparatus for rendering them harmless if they should be torn from their anchorage, all mines showing clearly from which country they originate. Submarine boats should not be used against merchant vessels except for exercising the right of stopping and searching them; neutral flags should not be used by merchant ships of belligerent countries for the purpose of hiding their identity. England should agree that foodstuffs be not declared absolute contraband of war, that neutral ships with cargoes of foodstuffs consigned to agencies in Germany especially designated by the American government should not be molested by English men-of-war, while Germany should agree that such cargoes from America or any other neutral country should be consigned to agencies designated by the American government under the guarantee, that foodstuffs thus imported would be used exclusively by, and distributed to, the civil population, the government pledging itself that such foodstuffs be not commandeered or requisitioned for military purposes.

This very fair proposition met with the general approval of the German government as was to be expected. The note replying to the American proposition states that these were indeed to be considered as a useful basis for the practical solution of the questions in controversy. The German government was ready to accept the proposals in regard to the use of mines with the single exception that it could not refrain entirely from laying sea mines for offensive purposes. It would pledge itself that its submarine boats would use force only as far as necessary to carry out the right of stopping and searching against neutral vessels, and would observe the rules of general international law in regard to hostile merchant vessels or neutral ships carrying contraband of war, provided that hostile merchant vessels do not fly neutral flags or use other marks to hide their nationality and provided, further, that hostile merchant ships be not armed and refrain from any actual resistance against stopping and searching. Finally, the German government stands ready to pledge itself as requested by the American government, to acknowledge agencies to be designated by the American government, and to see that no foodstuffs or other material imported under the provisions of this agreement should be used for other purposes but distribution among the civil population provided that besides foodstuffs other raw materials for Germany's economical life including fodder be admitted also, which would mean that articles on the list of relative contraband of war be treated like foodstuffs. The note adds the significant remark that peaceful neutral commerce would have to suffer still less from disturbances if the transportation of war material from a neutral to a belligerent country should cease entirely.

Simultaneously with the publication of these notes breathing a spirit of friendliness and conciliation as well as of consideration of the just rights of neutrals, comes the announcement that England and France have notified the neutral powers of their intention to stop the importation and exportation of all kinds of goods for or from Germany and to seize all such goods on neutral ships, whether contraband of war or not. If this policy is really carried out, a clash between England and America is inevitable. It would be a repetition of the year of 1812, as I have predicted from the beginning. President Wilson has now two very serious problems of foreign politics on his hands: the right of neutrals to trade with a belligerent country and the Japanese-Chinese question. Will the great conflagration spread still further setting even America ablaze?

March 3rd 1915.

No more doubt is permissible now, that England has rejected President Wilson's proposals so readily accepted by Germany in a spirit of true civilization. It is England which wants to still aggravate the evils of war in a degree unheard of before. And as sure

as fate, this is the turning of the tide in America. We already hear of strong protests by all American papers, with the single exception of the entirely French-British "New York Herald", against what they call the English "blockade at a distance" of Germany. They assert that there would be no objection if England should proclaim and effectually carry out a formal blockade of Germany entitling her to bottle up Germany. But the condition sine qua non was an effective blockade. Simply to confiscate all goods which are only surmised as possibly finding their way into Germany or as coming from there, would create a situation unbearable for all.

French attempts to break through the German lines in the Champagne have been frustrated by German watchfulness and obstinacy, all French attacks have been repulsed with severe losses. How discouraged the French are by the apparent inability to somewhere break the iron wall stretching from the North Sea to the Swiss frontier, is made clear by an article written by the French author Charles Richet, who admonishes General Joffre not to try any more such attacks but to trust in time. On June 1st, he predicts with apodictic certainty, Germany will have no more stores of breadstuffs. Even if they should take Dunkirk, Compiègne and Verdun in the West and Warsaw in the East, they would begin to starve on June 1st and within three months from now the Germans would be on their knees begging for peace under all and any conditions imposed by the allies, if—and here comes the big if—if only their supply of breadstuffs could be cut off. Suppose, M. Richet, the Germans do take Dunkirk, Compiègne, Verdun and Warsaw meanwhile and find on June 1st, that they have enough to live until the next crop is brought in—what then?

This morning a touching ceremony took place in the American church on Motzstr. A funeral service was held in honor of the famous American war correspondent James Creelman who died recently in a Berlin hospital from a combination of diseases. Ambassador Gerard, Consul-General Lay and many members of the American colony including all American correspondents in Berlin, attended.

The death announced by cable from New York, of the well known opera singer Rudolf Berger is causing deep regret in Berlin where he was well liked for his personal and artistic qualities. It is yet unknown what caused the untimely death of this gifted singer who, at the age of forty, seemed to be in the prime of his life when he left for New York a few months ago.

March, 4th 1915.

This is inauguration day—two years ago President Wilson was solemnly inaugurated to his high office and took the oath in the presence of hundreds of thousands of enthusiastic Americans assembled on the grounds in front of the capitol in Washington. Who then surmised, that he would to day be confronted with a situation almost as full of dangers and momentous problems of decisive importance for the future, not only of the United States alone but of the whole world, as Abraham Lincoln found on the day of his inauguration on March 4th 1861? Will Woodrow Wilson be another Lincoln, steering the ship of state with a firm hand through all the rapids and whirlpools and rocks of wrought up international politics, will he save his people and his country from the terrible conflagration filling the air with towering flames, with smoke and blood? Such are the questions asked today by thoughtful Americans, anxiously awaiting daily news from the scene of bloodshed and ruin, filling every human heart with ache. In all her history, America has had the good fortune to be blessed with the right man at the helm in really troublesome times. Will she have the same good luck this time?

English papers assert that England regrets to be compelled to annoy neutral commerce and would do everything to avoid unnecessary hardship but America should beware of illusions that her protests would accomplish anything; the measures as announced by the government in a communication to the neutral powers, would be strictly enforced. This means the "blockade at a distance" which would be absolutely against all international treaties and laws acknowledged as being in full force by all powers, even England. The new measures, it is announced, will go into effect when the time set for ships which sailed before the announcement to reach the port of destination, is up. But in spite of the decided tone of the English press I am inclined to take it for a bluff. Mr. Asquith has already declared that his first statement in parliament had been mistaken, he did not mean it half as badly as he was represented. This opens the way for a further retreat. We shall wait and see.

There is great excitement in Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway on account of the report, that British consular officers will watch the unloading, shipping by rail and distributing of breadstuffs or other articles imported from abroad to prevent their going to Germany. The papers in these countries maintain, that such practices would be an intolerable transgression on the part of the British government which

would have most serious consequences. Too bad, that the United States is not a European country. I would like to see public opinion going up in America if such impudence should be tried by any other government; an administration not refusing it with the utmost vigor, would be simply swept off the earth.

Colonel Roosevelt and General Wood, of Rough Riders fame, have founded an American Legion embracing all men having had some military practice of any kind, to serve as a reserve of the first line in case of need: they hope to get about 200,000 members. Hm! I do not know what the colonel really hopes to accomplish and therefore have to reserve judgement. But I cannot help thinking that he is more after notoriety than "a reserve of the first line", which sounds very nice but means nothing if it is to be composed of young men who have had some little half military drill as schoolboys but no real training nor discipline.

March 5th 1915.

It is reported from Washington that the President is greatly disquieted about the intention of England to carry through a paper "blockade at great distance". He has given the English government to understand that no such steps would be tolerated and that America must insist upon an effective blockade to be established before any trade of neutral countries with a belligerent country could be stopped. This is plain language and will be heeded in London or — —

Since a few days a strong English-French fleet is bombarding the Turkish forts protecting the entrance of the Dardanelles, up to the present time without success. But the appearance of a strong squadron of the allies with transports carrying a landing corps, has had another effect. It has roused public feeling in the Balkan states and in Italy to a pitch of excitement and it looks as if the blaze would spread. Italy is evidently preparing to take a hand in the game, so is Greece and so is Bulgaria, while Roumania is watching events to step in at the proper time. In all four countries much agitation is going on trying to swing public opinion to one side or the other in all these countries with perhaps the single exception of Bulgaria, public opinion is divided, which should by itself warn their governments not to enter upon a policy of adventures, but to remain neutral and watch for further developments. But the impression is gaining ground, even here in Germany, that the Italian government is trying to barter with Austria for the cessation of what is called the "Trentino" or the stretch of land along the Mediterranean coast, inhabited by Italians with the city of Trient as centre. The allies, of course, are promising Italy everything in case of her joining them, especially large slices of Austria. But at the same time, Italy should keep in mind that the possession of the Dardanelles by Russia would mean that another big power had entered the Mediterranean reducing Italy to the fourth place. She can only maintain the balance of power in the Mediterranean by keeping Russia out of it, id est by supporting Turkey as the holder of the key to the Black Sea, and by permitting Austria to remain in her present position. Even if she should gain the whole Austrian coast at the gulf of Adria, she would always be at the mercy of England and France with her coasts exposed to attacks from all sides. If she should remain neutral, she might have a chance to get Malta and Corsica in case of a victory by Germany and Austria, and a large slice of North Africa. But do sound counsels prevail in such cases? However, if I remember rightly, Italy is the ally of Germany and Austria? Or is this already a fact of long, long ago? The Germans have an adage: "Die Politik verdirbt den Charakter." It seems to me that there is no character to be corrupted if Italy should betray her allies so shamelessly.

Greece is in the midst of excitement, too. The king has called the minister in Paris and the former prime ministers together with the present prime minister Venizelos and the other ministers to a council of war, to decide whether Greece should join the allies or keep neutral. His dilemma is serious. Public opinion is undoubtedly for joining the allies. If he does, all dreams of ever getting Constantinople, are past. If he does not, he might be swept from his throne. And the joining of the allies would mean war with Bulgaria, which is only waiting for an opportunity to get square with Greece for her defeat in the second Balkan war. And how about Roumania? She is, also, uncertain, what to do. In my opinion her interest would drive her with Bulgaria and Greece to the side of Austria and Germany against Russia, because a Russian victory would mean the end of real independent Balkan states. They would all be mere dependencies of Russia if she should hold the Dardanelles and Constantinople. Only Bulgaria seems to realize the situation fully and to be resolved to side with Germany, Austria and Turkey for good and for bad. Are King Ferdinand and his minister Radoslawoff the only sensible statesmen at the Balkan?

March, 6th 1915.

The submarine boat U 8 is lost. An English torpedo boat had discovered and sunk her; the crew are saved. For this reason the loss is not over serious, Germany having enough to spare some, if only the brave men on board are rescued.

A most remarkable story is telegraphed from Stockholm. The Swedish captain A. Nilsson reports that off Dover on a voyage from Spain to Sweden his ship was boarded by a detachment of British soldiers under command of an officer, stating that they were ordered to protect him against German submarine boats by shooting at them as soon as one came in sight. The captain objected, protesting that in case an emerging German submarine boat would be fired upon, she would immediately torpedo the ship, sending down not only the English crew, but the Swedish sailors also. All objections were futile, but luckily no German submarine boat was sighted.

According to all reports the attacks of the allied fleet at the entrance of the Dardanelles were repulsed, especially because the English ships fired from a very great distance and were apparently endeavoring not to run any great risk. They always prefer to let other people do the fighting for them.

The Turkish Minister of Finance Dshavid Bey arrived in Berlin after having conferred with leading statesmen in Vienna. What he wants? Why, of course money. Was there ever a Turkish financial minister visiting a European capital without wanting money? But in this case the money he will get will be well invested. The Turks are doing nicely and are entitled to every possible assistance. Let us hope that they will rout the English and the Russians wherever they meet them.

The Prussian diet has passed a vote of thanks to the minister of railways von Breitenbach and his subordinates for efficiency shown during the last months, since the beginning of the war. And if any body of men have deserved such expressions of gratitude, the German railroad men certainly have.

March 7th 1915.

The Greek prime minister Venizelos has resigned after several long conferences. It appears that, strange to say, the King and his generals voted against Greece's participation of the war, fully realizing that the people are too exhausted to again venture a struggle with Bulgaria, while public opinion, under the leadership of the ministers, is for war. The better and deeper insight is surely with the King and his generals. England and France have learned meanwhile, that to open the Dardanelles straits by force is a hard job and cannot be undertaken with a small expeditionary corps of about 60,000 men. They would both be glad to leave this task to the Greek army, whose generals know what fate to expect and dislike the idea of pulling the chestnuts out of Turkish fire for the English, French and Russians and to be invited afterwards to hand Constantinople over to Russia.

The famous historian, professor Eduard Meyer of Berlin university, who acted as exchange professor at Harvard in the winter 1909/10, in an article published by the "Vossische Zeitung", protests against the continuation of exchanging professors with Harvard on account of the well known anti-German attitude of its leading men, especially of expresident Elliot and president Lowell. He furiously attacks professor Kuno Francke of Harvard for his refusal to join the German-American movement in favor of real neutrality by America. It is too bad that a man of the type and quality of professor Kuno Francke should have been so strongly infected with what his colleague Eduard Meyer calls the spirit of Harvard. Times like these have no use for weaklings, no matter how great their scholarship might be.

According to Japanese reports it was their ships which really overpowered the German cruisers of Admiral Count Spee in the battle off the Falkland Islands, after the English Admiral Sturdee had been unable to accomplish it with a squadron much stronger than the German one. They also add that the British ships finished the German ships after the Japanese had ceased to fire, wishing to spare the lives of the brave sailors on board. Will this report ever reach London and what will Admiral Sturdee have to say?

Count Bernstorff has transmitted to the "National Relief Fund for Widows and Orphans of Killed Soldiers" the sum of \$ 150,000 as result of the great fair held in New York during the month of December by German- and Austro-Americans. Bravo!

Some highly interesting figures: The Hamburg-South America Steamship Co. has declared a 4% dividend; the Kosmos Line will to the same; the Vulcan shipyards in Stettin and Hamburg, which two years ago surprised their stockholders very unpleasantly by considerably reducing the usual dividend, is paying 11% like last year; the John C. Tecklenburg shipyards in Bremen have declared a dividend of 10%. Does this look like a financial breakdown of the economical life of Germany? If steamship lines and shipyards, completely laid low by the war, are able to pay such dividends—Germany can look into the future with unbounded confidence.

Switzerland is negotiating for a loan of 100 million Francs in America. This is another sign of the times. Some six months ago Switzerland, in need of money, would have gone to Paris and London, not to New York to look for help.