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STOCKHOLM ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN VIENNA ZURICH

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1915.

LATEST NEWS. SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Crown Prince Danilo III.

Cettinje, Aug. 24. Prince Danilo and his wife have left for France. The Crown Prince is ill and will take a cure.

Salandra at the Front.

Rome, Aug. 24. The Premier is about to make another journey to the front to have an audience with the King.

Offenburg Attacked.

It is officially announced that the open town of Offenburg has been bombarded by aeroplanists.

What does it Mean?

Sofia, Aug. 24. The Roumanian government has notified the railroad department, that from Sept. 14. all its rolling stock must be placed at the disposal of the minister of war.

Servia Won't Cede Land.

Budapest, Aug. 24. According to the *Az Est*, at the secret sitting of the members of the Skupstchina, a decision was taken adverse to the wishes of the Entente Powers.

A Sea Engagement.

Brussels, Aug. 24. Two English destroyers appeared off Zeebrugge and attacked and sank a German watch boat. Most members of the crew were saved.

Dschawid Bey Reports.

Constantinople, Aug. 24. The Minister of Finance Dschawid Bey has returned here from Berlin and at once had a prolonged audience with the Grand Vizier.

King Going to Scotland.

London, Aug. 24. It has been decided that the court will be transferred from London to Balmoral. The King goes north to take a holiday and get some grouse shooting.

To Motor Car Owners.

Bucharest, Aug. 24. Owners of motor-cars and other mechanical traction vehicles are henceforth forbidden to sell or transfer them without permission of the Minister of War.

Roumania Quiet.

Bucharest, Aug. 24. The news of the Turco-Bulgarian agreement has been received here with equanimity. The reports in foreign papers stating that an agreement between Roumania and Italy exists is denied here.

The Haakon's Mail.

Christiania, Aug. 24. It is not true that the postal matter taken from the Haakon VII was destroyed. After having been examined for contraband by the German authorities, it has been returned here.

Trouble in Abyssinia.

Rome, Aug. 24. Troubles have broken out in Abyssinia where the population appear to think the moment propitious for getting rid of the foreigners. The governor of Eritrea has telegraphed home asking troops be sent there.

To Aid Belgians.

Geneva, Aug. 24. A German aid society has been formed here for the purpose of assisting Belgians desirous of returning to their country. Everything possible is done to assist families and the results are that a large number of refugees are returning.

Utilising Misfortune.

London, Aug. 24. The fall of Kowno is utilised by the *Times* as propaganda for conscription. The suggestion made is, that the English people may now give their Russian Allies a conviction of their friendship, by adopting compulsory military service without delay.

Veniselos Accepts.

Athens, Aug. 24. The agreement between the King and M. Veniselos is complete. The former premier will construct a cabinet on the principle of neutrality. M. Veniselos will have a reduced majority in the Chamber and M. Gunaris will lead the new National party. The result appears to satisfy everybody.

Naby Bey Leaves.

Rome, Aug. 22. The Turkish Ambassador Naby Bey has left here today for Chiasso. The entire staff of the Embassy accompanied the Ambassador. The train was guarded by several chiefs of police and secret agents. The Ambassador travelled on to Zurich.

Heavy Losses.

Rotterdam, Aug. 24. The latest English newspapers to hand give solid lists of casualties in the Mediterranean expeditionary forces, but do not as hitherto give the numbers of the fallen. Neither Australian or New Zealand forces are mentioned although there are a large number taking part in the Dardanelles expedition, but those long lists are filled with the names of those belonging to Scotch regiments.

The Royal Scotch Fusiliers and the Scotch Borderers have suffered very severely and their casualties form exceptionally long lists osely prie d.

HOW WITTE DIED.

The Great Russian Statesman was for Peace and Against the War Party.

ADVICE TO THE TZAR.

Said That the French Alliance Would Bring a Catastrophe.

Mysterious Death at Vilna Due to Poisoning.

A remarkable piece of information has come to light concerning the cause of death of the late Russian statesman M. Witte.

It will be remembered that when M. Witte died, some month ago, reports were rife to the effect that he had not succumbed to a natural death.

There were good reasons why the great and powerful—the greatest of Russian statesmen—should disappear. In the first place M. Witte had told his countrymen quite openly he had indeed expressed his opinions aloud, at a sitting of the Council of the Empire—to the effect that Russia was making a colossal mistake in going to war, that its military organisation was incomplete, that its financial resources were insufficient, and that war spelt ruin to the country.

De Witte's Book.

Secondly it was known that Witte had completed a book upon the political events of his times, and in that work he had spared none, but that, as was his wont, he had told the truth, concerning events and measures in Russia. Such revelations could not be other than exceedingly unpleasant reading to the upper and official classes. M. Witte had no love for the Grand Dukes, and their depraved mode of life; he had no respect for the wiles of diplomacy, but a contempt for diplomats and their ways; he abhorred the corrupt tchinovnik, and, if he could have achieved the great hope of his life, he would have purged Russia of the national scourge of the venality of its officials. I knew Witte well and had often talked to him on just that subject. His firm opinion was that Russia could never succeed till official corruption was rooted out.

A Roar of Execration.

M. Witte's propaganda for peace, as spoken before the Imperial Council, at once brought down upon his head an avalanche of abuse and execration from the Grand Ducal and War party, then all omnipotent; and it found no echo except amongst the people—whose opinions do not count in Russia.

But M. Witte had been through all that before. In like manner he had protested against the war of 1812, and then been similarly reviled. But, when that war was over, M. Witte was the man chosen to save the country, the man destined to use his powerful brains in view of making a favourable peace, a task he carried out in a brilliantly successful manner. So, seeing how matters stood, he quietly went his way, all the while standing as the hope and light of the peace party.

His Opinions.

Only now, the truth as to the death of the great statesman is revealed by a Russian prisoner, who belonged to the Witte circle, and he tells the tale as follows:—"In January M. Witte had received an invitation to attend a meeting of leading financiers and parliamentarians, men who were of opinion that war with Germany was a hopeless and useless undertaking and that it was in every way contrary to all the best interests of Russia."

M. Witte had always taken the stand, that Russia would eventually meet with catastrophe owing to the alliance with France, and had expressed himself of that opinion at an Imperial Council in 1913, called in relation to the troubles in the Balkans. M. Witte on that occasion spoke his mind out quite openly. He urged that the then Minister to Belgrade, the notorious von Hartwig, should be recalled and that his post should be given to a man of less aggressive political tendencies. But his advice was over-ruled upon vote.

Visits the Tzar.

In July 1914 M. Witte went directly to the Tzar, in order to win H. I. M. over to assent to a rapid change of the Russian Cabinet, with the object of bringing about a friendly understanding with the Central Powers. M. Witte was again received in audience by the Tzar on July 28, and, for a day, it looked as though M. Witte's peace policy would triumph. But the Russian camarilla set to work with extreme energy, the Tzar was watched like a slave and received news only from the mouth of Nikolai Nikolaivitch.

M. Witte, seeing the hopelessness of his further efforts, went abroad to await the development of events. Shortly after the winter conflict in the Masurian lakes, he was

called to the Tzar, this time to Moscow. Here, once again, Witte made proposals to the Tzar, for an understanding with the Central Powers. He argued, that after an eventual victory of the Anglo-French group, absolute independence from England was indispensable for Russia. He held that the defeat of the Central Powers would mark the commencement of the downfall of Russia and that Russia could only develop with the support of her natural neighbour Germany. And it was at this juncture that the Grand Duke Nikolai Nikolaivitch appeared upon the scene, and began to deceive the Tzar by means of false news.

At Vilna.

M. Witte about the same time travelled to Vilna to the pre-arranged meeting. In the Hotel where he put up, had arrived, two days previously, a new waiter, and this man was detailed to wait upon M. Witte. Then M. Witte, was all of a sudden taken ill, suffering from coal oxide gas poisoning, arising from a faulty stove pipe that had become detached. He was found lying in a hopeless condition and died shortly afterwards, his corpse being conveyed to Petersburg. The new waiter forthwith disappeared from the hotel. The hotel proprietor, under penalty of heavy fine, was sworn not to mention a word concerning the cause of the death of M. Witte. The rest of the staff of the hotel, upon some flimsy pretext, was drafted away.

A BLOW TO ENGLAND.

Downing Street had Been Misinformed by the British Minister in Sofia.

London, Aug. 24. The utmost disappointment is felt here concerning the failure of diplomatic negotiations with Bulgaria. Downing Street appears to have been totally misinformed by the British Minister in Sofia, who had given his government to understand that Bulgaria would accept the English proposals. It now transpires that Bulgaria never had any such intention. The agreement between Turkey and Bulgaria is a hard blow to England's hopes.

Roosevelt Bellicose.

New York, Aug. 24. Ex-President Roosevelt has come out with a very jingoish statement on the subject of the Arabic. He thinks that a breaking of diplomatic relations is not sufficient as it is merely temporising. He fails to be able to understand how the representatives of the posterity of Washington and Lincoln cannot grasp that the moment for deeds has come.

Financial Troubles.

Athens, Aug. 24. One of the most serious of questions before the new Veniselos cabinet is the financial one. Greece needs a loan badly, but, there are no prospects of obtaining money on the European markets today. It is stated that England and France offer a loan but on difficult terms.

Becoming Disheartened.

Lugano, Aug. 24. The *Corriere della Sera*, which was so loud mouthed at the commencement of the war, now takes to a more subdued tone. It says that Germany has good reason to be satisfied that the Russian resistance was not of the strength anticipated. The Quadruple Alliance must no longer have illusions such as expecting any offensive movement on the part of the Russians.

The Arabic.

Amsterdam, Aug. 24. The White Star Company publishes a list from which it appears that the casualties in the sinking of the Arabic were 39, out of which 18 were passengers and 21 of the crew.

The German-American Chamber of Commerce publishes a long list of contraband carried by the Arabic on her last journey to England.

There is considerable excitement in America, principally worked up by the press. Mr. Wilson quietly awaits details.

Mysterious Occurrence.

Geneva, Aug. 24. The French newspapers report a mysterious occurrence in the Channel. It was reported at the Gare du Nord in Paris that a serious accident had happened to the Folkestone-Boulogne mail steamer. The officials refused to give any information. The Press Bureau stated that definite details had been received. A great crowd assembled about the station and the people threateningly demanded that whatever news there was be given out.

Discredited Generals.

Lugano, Aug. 24. No less than three commanding generals and five division generals have been dismissed from the Italian army. The fall of General Ragni, considered to be one of the most able of Italian military leaders, has attracted particular attention. He was in command of the first army corps quartered in Turin and so, in a way, a body guard to the King.

BULGARIAN PACT WITH TURKEY.

Important Political Event Which Signifies the Failure of the Policy of the Entente Powers in the Balkans.

DECLINED WITH THANKS.

The Bulgars Refused to Stab the Ottomans in the Back. Just Claims Which Will Have to be Considered When the War is Over.

By Aubrey Stanhope.

"Bulgaria has signed an agreement with Turkey." That is the most important piece of political news heard in a long while. It relieves the Balkan crisis which has weighed so painfully, it signifies that Bulgaria has no intention of entertaining the dubious offers made her, in return for her joining in the attack upon Turkey. It stands as a hard political blow to the Entente Powers.

At the last moment Italy was rushed into declaring war upon Turkey, as it now turns out with the principal aim of influencing the Balkan provinces. How little effectual that move has been, is clearly shown by the fact that within 48 hours of the Italian declaration of war, Bulgaria sides with Turkey. That agreement stands as another bad diplomatic defeat of the Quadruple Alliance, as the extinguishing of a final and desperate hope—the aid which Bulgaria might have given by attacking the Turks, and which has now been refused.

What Roumania will do under the circumstances, remains to be seen. That country has formed the political enigma of the past few months, and there are all the evidences that it will shortly be forced to take some final decision.

What was Proposed.

As regards the action of the Entente Powers, it has been truly remarkable. So important was it held to be, to obtain the support of Bulgaria, that the Allies have been prepared to rob Greece of the most fruitful harbor of Cavalla, which they had so falsely assigned to that country at the close of the war of 1913. It belonged by right to Bulgaria, but it was filched from her by the shameful conditions of the treaty of Bucharest. They have offered as a further bait to Bulgaria, as the price of her assistance at the Dardanelles, that part of Macedonia which the Servian stole from her after so treacherously turning upon the friend and ally. That country does not belong to the Central Powers, but such a small trifle does not appear to play any role in these days with the champions of advancement and civilisation. They were willing to sacrifice both Greece and their ally Servia, to obtain the aid of Bulgaria, in order to win yet another foe against the valiant Turks who are already fighting at odds of two to one.

An Immoral Proposition.

But Bulgaria it was known long ago, would not come in. She would not stoop to so immoral a contract. Don't let anyone who may happen to read this, imagine for one moment that Bulgaria does not want those stolen lands returned to her. There is not a Bulgarian today who is not fully of opinion that the people of his race will never be satisfied, will never be at peace until those stolen provinces, that filched harbor, have once more become Bulgarian territory. But Bulgarians would not gain them at the price of betrayal, at a sacrifice of the national honor, as would have been involved in joining in a three to one fight against an enemy they had leant to regard in the Balkan war, as a valiant and chivalrous foe.

Saved a Catastrophe.

Had Bulgaria given way to the temptations offered her, the catastrophe would have been endless, for then nothing could have prevented Roumania and Greece entering the arena of the great conflict now proceeding. The Bulgarians, by their wise conduct in this matter, have justly earned the thanks of humanity because they have practically contributed to a shortening of the war. And thus, when the war is over, Bulgaria will have a thoroughly well based claim to call for a revision of the iniquitous terms of the Treaty of Bucharest.

Did the Fighting.

Everyone who was in Bulgaria at the time of the late war, all the Correspondents who followed out the campaign, were well aware that it was the Bulgarians who did all the really hard fighting in the Balkans. It was they, who, under the leadership of Daschko Dimitriew won a series of brilliant victories, one after another, in a style which brought them the highest praise from all the military experts of the world.

When history comes to be written, it will be told how, after the great battle of Lulu Burgas both the Turks and the Bulgarians were quite prepared to negotiate terms of

peace. Their delegates had already started and were to meet somewhere near the battlefield and there come to an agreement. It was reckoned that everything would have been amicably settled in a very few days

The Trap.

Then, at the instigation of Sir Edward Grey, it was suggested that the peace councils would be better held in London. That clever device, to prevent the conclusion of peace, succeeded admirably. Nothing was done in London, but, during the near two months the futile conference continued, the Bulgarians perished by the thousands in the water sogged trenches around Adrianople and the extensive lines of Chatalga. When the intentionally long drawn out negotiations of the London Conference had failed, the Bulgarian forces were done for. It was at that moment that Servia, whose troops had rested and whose coffers had been refilled and its military equipments renewed by the Russians; turned upon the former ally, and with the aid of Roumania forced the ignoble terms of the treaty of Bucharest upon the unwilling but helpless Bulgar, who was thus robbed of Salonika, Cavalla and Macedonia.

But, today the Bulgarian army has recovered its forces, indeed, it is stronger than ever before. It is keen and full ready for the fight, should it be needful. And no Bulgarian will ever be satisfied until justice has been done to his ill-used country. Another Balkan war is already in embryo, and unless justice be done to Bulgaria, by means of treaty, that country will sooner or later resort to war to get back that which she considers to be hers.

THE WAR.

March on Vilna. Riga Must Fall Soon. Many More Prisoners Will be Taken.

General von Eichhorn is keeping the Russians on the run about Kowno and has taken nine officers and 2600 men prisoners. Eight machine guns formed part of a considerable booty. General von Eichhorn is marching on Vilna.

There is a silence as regards the operations of General von Bülow, further north, and the Russians claim to have checked the German advance. However, there is no doubt that the occupation of Vilna is but a matter of very short time, and General von Bülow is working in touch with the fleet.

Ossowitch, a fort of some importance, has been abandoned by the Russians. The fate of Grodno will soon be sealed. It occupies an important position at the confluence of the Niemen and Bobr.

Prince Leopold of Bavaria is heard of in the forest district of Kleszczewo to the north of Brest-Litowsk where he keeps meeting and defeating Russian troops. He has taken 4900 prisoners and nine machine guns.

Around Brest-Litowsk.

General von Mackensen and the Archduke Ferdinand are pushing forward from the south and are quite near to Brest-Litowsk. Owing to the swampy nature of the ground the difficulties of bringing up artillery are great. An important position Kowel has been occupied and thus Brest-Litowsk is cut off from all railroad communication with the south. The army of the Archduke Ferdinand has captured four officers and 1300 men.

Fighting has been renewed with much activity in the Bukowina and Bessarabia and an artillery duel has been in process around Czernowitz. The Russians have gathered in fresh force close onto the Roumanian frontier and Russian cavalry have even crossed into Roumanian territory the neighborhood of Chotin. It was met by the Roumanian frontier guard with rifle fire.

All Nonsense.

All talk of the Russian retreat being of an orderly and tactical nature is, as time proceeds, shown to be pure nonsense. The retreat is more in the nature of a flight and anywhere from 5000 to 10,000 prisoners per day captured, testify clearly how matters stand. The Russians are short of artillery, munitions and men. Thousands upon thousands of Russian troops seeking flight and in confusion, are scattered throughout Poland and are constantly being located and captured. The ultimate number of prisoners therefore is likely to be enormous.

Great jubiliations are reported in Petersburg regarding a supposed victory over the German fleet in the Baltic off Riga. The Germans assert that the whole thing was merely a reconnoitering expedition.

Repulsed Everywhere.

The Italians continue making fierce attacks on various points at the front, invariably with the same result that they are thrown back with heavy losses. There has been heavy fighting about the Vielgereuth plateau. The Italians attacked repeatedly and were finally repulsed leaving 300 dead.

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Poor Italy! Poor Italians!
Well may one exclaim, "Poor Italy!"
Never in the annals of history has any country
been so utterly sold, or a greater victim
made, than Italy today at the hands of
England.

After resisting a long while, after refusing
over and over again to be drawn into the
sanguinary human maelstrom at Gallipoli;
which has engulfed and destroyed the flower
of the armies of France and England; Italy
for "cash down"; that is to say a guarantee
that all her expenses will be paid so long
as the war lasts; sells the lives of her poor
hard-working population, now enrolled in
the ranks of the army, so that, to use the
words of a high Turkish official who gave
an interview to the *BZ am Mittag*—"They
may have the honor of dying for the English."

History certainly does not record an in-
stance of such a cold-blooded transaction as
this, in which Italian lives are callously sold
in return for vulgar money considerations.
It is, to put the whole matter briefly, a trans-
action in flesh and blood, a bartering of men's
lives against so many ducats, an exchange
and mart in human beings.

In his last report from the Dardanelles, Sir
Ian Hamilton tells of the several desperate,
thoroughly reckless, and undoubtedly cou-
rageous attempts made by the English to
land at various points of the Peninsula. And
in that despatch, the skilled eye at once reads
the history of a severe reserve, summed up
in the final words where it is told that,
"further progress was impossible."

So also in the long and somewhat too
laudatory despatch of Admiral de Robeck,
who, failing to be able to report successes
of arms, filled his official message with
examples of individual bravery, told of with
a view to theatrical effect which verged
on fulsome. But, when analysed, that
entire despatch; cleverly written with the ob-
ject of throwing dust into the eyes of the
British public might have been summed up,
"we suffered another sanguinary defeat."

And now, when the English and French,
for months past, have exhausted their entire
resources, in trying to force an impregnable
position, they turn round and invite the poor
Italians to take up the hopeless task, in re-
turn for a money payment. It would scarce
seem credible that such a transaction could
take place in the year 1915, and yet there it
is, a hard and cruel fact, a vulgar and cal-
lous traffic in flesh and blood. Poor Italy!
Poor Italians!

Bulgaria Those who have been behind the
Decides political scenes of late, will not be
surprised to hear that Bulgaria has entered
into an agreement with Turkey. That decision
just at the present moment, is all important.
The Entente Powers had "raised heaven
and earth" to try and persuade Bulgaria to
join them in attacking the Turk. The propo-
sition reflects no credit upon their chivalry
as they already stand at odds of two to one;
two rich and resourceful great powers against
what the English used to call "the sick man."
But the "sick man" has shown himself
so full of resistance and vitality, that the
English and French could do nothing
with him. So they called aloud for help
to Bulgaria, as a last hope. Bulgaria had
not the slightest intention of assisting
and helping her enemy Russia to occupy
Constantinople. On the contrary, she shows
her sentiments by an agreement with Turkey.
That makes a very awkward political position
for the Entente Powers.

King George Several German newspapers
Goes North. announce that King George has
decided to leave London and transfer his re-
sidence to Scotland. They attribute that
decision to the fears inspired by the recent
Zeppelin airships visit to England. That
assumption however is scarce likely to be
correct. In the first place no German airship
commander would think of dropping bombs
upon Buckingham Palace. Bombs have been
dropped in the British capital, but invariably

in the East End of the town, with the fixed
object of damaging the docks. Secondly, it
is the habit of the English court, at this
season of the year, to leave London, and
go to Balmoral. King George is an enthu-
siastic sportsman. The grouse season opened
on the 12th of the present month, and the
birds have therefore had 13 days grace.
Besides there is stag shooting and stalking
to be attended to. The Gillies must have
long been impatiently awaiting the arrival of
His Majesty.

Roosevelt It is right well for the United
Aroused. States, in these times when cool
heads are all necessary, that Theodore Roo-
sevelt is not executive in the White House.
"Teddy" lives in a state of perpetual
jingoism, and wishes to pose as the War
Lord of America. But the Americans do
not rise to the Roosevelt bait, for they are
far too sensible to allow themselves to be
dragged into the grand conflict raging in
Europe. And, beyond "Teddy" himself
there is no "war party" in the United States.

Disillusions We have reached a high season
all Around. of disillusions. The Italians
are the most disillusioned of all people.
Their war, inaugurated with so much talk,
noise and excitement is petering out like a
damp cracker. The English are disillusioned
concerning the Russians and the Russians
are in despair concerning the lack of support
given by the English. The French are
disillusioned concerning M. Millerand and
the promised Kitchener "millions" army which
fails to materialise.

A GROSS ERROR.
Paper for Gold and the Truth. False Re-
port Published in an American Paper.

In the weekly report of the American
Association for Commerce and Trade, the
following appears:

We record a statement in an American
daily which is a gross error, and we are
anxious to correct such a report which tends
to create false impressions.

Says the *Galveston Daily News* of July 22:
"It is a crime punishable by heavy fine
and long imprisonment to be caught with a
gold coin in Germany. All gold has been
requisitioned by the government, which gives
paper in exchange. Once more, then, the
Germans have upset an ancient theory. It
used to be considered that two were re-
quired to make a bargain."

We repeat the following:
1. The same as in other belligerent coun-
tries, Germany has endeavored to direct all
gold to the bank of the government.
2. The methods employed by the German
government in this respect differ in no way
whatever from those employed in other
belligerent countries, and if the German meth-
ods have been successful in mobilizing the
gold, one must look to the patriotism of the
people and not to "causes phantasmal."

3. There is no obligation whatever other
than moral, nor is there any force employed,
in directing gold to the Reichsbank. Neither
is any premium paid by the authorities in
exchanging paper for gold.

However, above false news item is but
one of a multitude of incorrect, misleading
and distorted reports.

READY FOR THE ENEMY.
Quite Special Attention Being Paid to the
Military Equipment of Smyrna.

Paris, Aug. 24. According to an Athens
despatch, the Turks are very busy preparing
to resist any attack that may be made upon
Smyrna, upon which town the Italians are
credited with having quite special intentions.

The Turks have built a series of earthworks
all around the town. The fort of Kastrati
has been armed with new batteries of long
range cannon, brought from Constantinople.
Elaborate trench systems have been dug
along the main road from Smyrna to
Kolawarna, which runs parallel with the
coast. Behind those trenches a number of
strong defensive works, of cement, protected
by wire entanglements, have been established.
Numerous mortars and machine guns have
been brought from Constantinople and
placed in position around the city.

For some days past all communication
between Constantinople-Pandemia and Smyrna
has been cut, the trains being full of war
material. The bay has been strewn with
mines.

SALONICA ALARMED.
English Soldiers Taken Prisoner. Officers
Talk of British Occupation of the Town.

Vienna, Aug. 24. The Salonica correspon-
dent of the *Neue Freie Presse* telegraphs, that
English soldiers landed north of that city.
Greek troops were sent forthwith to where
the landing had taken place, the English
troops were disarmed and brought in to
Salonica.

The same correspondent states, that in all
probability English and French troops will
shortly occupy Crete. Three French destroyers
have arrived in Suda Bay. Several French
and English ships are expected there.

A number of inhabitants of Salonica have
fled to Athens, being frightened owing to
the reports of an English invasion. Such
rumors have been spread by English Officers,
a great many of whom had come into
Salonica to make purchases. They told the
people what a happy time they would
enjoy under English rule. The foreign Consuls
in Salonica protested against these statements
by the English.

VIRIBUS UNITIS. NEWS OF AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

The Food of the People.

Vienna is taking elaborate and compre-
hensive measures to secure her people against
all kinds of food adulteration and unnatural
increase of prices. The Central Informa-
tion Bureau has already received a large
number of complaints of various abuses,
such as short weight, watering of milk, famine
prices for meat, etc. This bureau is doing
excellent work. On similar lines the House-
wives' Organization of Vienna has organized
its offices as an information bureau.

The Hungarian agriculturists complain that
no cattle are as yet allowed to come into the
country from the occupied portions of Rus-
sian Poland. This prohibition was made for
veterinary reasons. All the more praise is
due to the wise action of the military com-
missariat which at once made arrangements
for the transport of all surplus food-stuffs to
the consumers inland. The proceedings to
guard against food-speculators in Vienna and
other large towns of Austria are similar to
those which have been taken in Greater
Berlin. It is another sign of the rigorous
care and solicitude with which the govern-
ment looks after the welfare of the people.

Grillparzer and Defence of Vienna in 1809.

In these days of victorious warfare, which
have added so many new laurels to Austria's
crown, it is good to look back through her
heroic history, to a day when a heavier shad-
ow lay upon her horizon, and was combated
with the same patriotic ardour that flames
in her children's hearts to-day. In a
little book just published, "1809, Documents
from Austria's war against Napoleon", we
find some interesting glimpses taken from the
autobiography, of Grillparzer's life as a
soldier. The great poet vividly describes a
night on the bastions, the thundering of the
guns, the great shells crossing one another
in the air. But he was not especially fond
of soldiering—"I was at no time a lover of
military pageantry", he declares. The book
makes fascinating reading.

Vienna Volunteers.

The Vienna Citizen's Rifle Corps is already
in full trim for the field and leaves for the
Italian front at the end of the month. The
formation of this volunteer company is in
accordance with the fine old Viennese tradi-
tion. In every war which the Double Mon-
archy has had to wage, the valiant Vienna
Volunteers have always been to the fore, and
there is no doubt that alike in numbers and
in heroic performance they will worthily
sustain their traditions and add fresh glories
to the history of their city.

Every capital of every province in Austria-
Hungary has shown the same spirit of heroic
love of Fatherland, of unity, of the will to
resist the unjust aggression of the Empire's
enemies, and of the unconquerable will to
victory.

Costly Confetti.

The Museum of Schärndyn has just received
an interesting gift. It is perhaps the smallest
but certainly one of the most eloquent souve-
nirs of the short Russian sojourn in Przemyśl.
It is only a quantity of confetti, small bits of
torn paper which the Russians threw into
one another's faces, like boys at the fair, in
celebration of their victories. And it was
being held in readiness to celebrate Russian
victories! The curious fact about this confetti
is the material of which it is composed—
Austria-Hungarian 10 and 20 Kronen-notes.

A "Schützengraben" in the Prater.

In response to a universally expressed
wish, a series of model trenches is in course
of erection in the world-famous Prater. The
work, directed by two staff-officers and a
military engineer, is proceeding so rapidly
that it is expected to be open to the public
in about a week. The trenches are perfect
in every particular, have machine guns, dug-
outs for officers and men, etc. They will
give a true and immensely interesting picture
of the life of our courageous troops in the
field. All receipts are to go to the official
war charities.

It is certain to prove a great and popular
success.

NEW GREEK MINISTRY.

Venizelos Returns as Premier. The New
Minister of War. No More Dictatorship.

Athens, Aug. 24. The new Greek Venizelos
Ministry is composed of almost entirely the
same men as were members of his previous
cabinet. But in the war cabinet General
Danglis becomes Minister of war and
Captain Miaulis Minister of the Navy.

Without doubt, the return of M. Venizelos
to power is a highly popular event, and the
knowledge that he and the King are in
thorough accord is universally thought to
be for the best interests of the country. The
army nowadays plays a big role and would
certainly resist any tendency that M. Venizelos
might have to cede Cavalla or any other Greek
territory, and hence considerable importance
is given to the appointment of General
Danglis, one of the personal friends of the
King and leaders in the last war. For the
first time in many years the Venizelos
dictatorship is controlled, firstly by a strong
majority, secondly by the King backed by
the army.

A GRAVE SITUATION. The Military Correspondent of the "Times" Considers the Danger Very Real. Next Ten Days Decisive.

The Military Correspondent of the *Times*,
who had prepared the readers of that paper
for a prolonged resistance by the defenders
of Kowno; having explained that the same
was needful for the accomplishment of the
plans of Nicolai Nicolaivitch; is now very
disheartened at the non-fulfilment of his
predictions. He says:—"It is a very dis-
agreeable blow. The defence was evidently
continued to the last, and it was not until
every fort was a heap of ruins that the brave
garrison were overwhelmed. It is one
triumph the more for the German guns, of
which there were large numbers in action,
including every calibre up to 16in. Very
extensive preparations had been made for
the attack, which was facilitated by the rail-
way from East Prussia, which was in Ger-
man hands. Thanks to the overwhelming
fire which was brought to bear, the Germans
were able to do without the slow processes
of a siege, and, though they must have
sacrificed large numbers of men, they gained
their ends."

Importance of the Fortress.

One fortress more or less is not of much
account, but Kowno has great importance at
this juncture in relation to the positions of
the contending armies, and there is nothing
to be gained by minimizing the gravity of
its loss. If all its defences are in German
hands, the Army under von Eichhorn can
now be brought across the Niemen and will
add its weight to the already considerable
forces under Hindenburg to the north of the
river. Pivoting now on the captured fortress
the Marshal will be free to advance on Vilna
if he has made himself safe on the Dwinsk-
Riga front, and the menace to the com-
munications of the main Russian armies on
the Bobr-Bug line becomes very real. We
cannot yet precisely define how serious the
menace is, because we have no information
of the amount of force which the Grand
Duke has collected on the Vilna side, but
Hindenburg has not yet found much diffi-
culty in fending off attacks from Riga and
Dvinsk, and it is probable that the deploy-
ment of his full strength has awaited the
result of the attack on Kowno.

Situation Grave.

The situation of the Russian Armies on
the Bobr-Bug line is now grave. There are
signs that the six or seven Austro-German
Armies which directly oppose these Russian
Armies have already made inroads into the
line taken up by our Allies, and the presence
of part of Mackensen's armies on the right
bank of the Bug near Wlodawa is as un-
pleasant as it is unexpected. The river and
the Pripiet marshes were expected to prevent
a movement of this kind if the natural de-
fences of this area were properly exploited,
but if the flank is here turned, and if Biels-
tok itself is threatened, then it may prove
to be the case that the Grand Duke will not
delay any longer on the Brest line, but will
seek before all else to place his armies in
safety. With the pursuing armies he may
deal, as he has done already, by fighting
gallantly and cleverly with his rearguards,
but the Hindenburg menace in the north is
now so serious that it must weigh heavily
upon Russian resolutions.

The events of the next 10 days promise
to be decisive. It must be supposed that
our Cabinet is fully alive to things that may
happen, and has taken count of them in the
general dispositions of our military forces.

French Awakening.

Paris, Aug. 24. The French press at last
is beginning to acknowledge the seriousness
of the Russian defeat. The *Humanité* in
summing up the military situation, says that
it is time the people should know how
events are developing in Russia. That the
latest news is serious and must be looked
in the face, eye to eye, and regarded accord-
ing to the consequences it may have, for
France. M. Clemenceau continues his bitter
attacks upon the ministry.

U-BOAT BOOTY.

The captain and crew of the torpedoed
Steamship Cober, 3060 tons, have been landed
by the Dutch Steamer Monnikendam.

The steamers Daghestan and Windsor have
been sunk and the William Dawson blown up.

A German submarine has appeared in the
Gulf of Finland where it sank a Russian
auxiliary war-vessel.

The British Steamer Diomed, 4000 tons,
has been torpedoed.

Two English trawlers have been sunk.

Condemned for Treason.

The condemned men, Baron Grothus
and Freinar, who were among the accomplices
of Colonel Masoyedoff, were both celebrated
in their times as prominent members of the
secret police. Baron Grothus is a German
from the Baltic provinces, who was employed
by the secret police, specially to shadow
foreign Press representatives, and who posed
as the Petrograd correspondent of a Baltic
province newspaper. Freinar, who was for-
merly vice-director of the secret police, owed
his performance to his investigation of the
Kishineff massacres, for which, according to
his report, the authorities were not responsible.

The Open Tribune.

To our Readers.

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

The Trail of the Saurian.

To the Editor.
An English friend of mine has brought
with him from London a very cheap and
vulgar book called, with astounding im-
pudence, "The German-American Plot". It
is a disgusting piece of work and purports
to be written by someone with the shady
name of Frederic William Wile. The
name is funny and sounds unreal, but the
stuff in the book would make a cat laugh.
It is written for Shoreditch, I suppose.

I hope you will turn your attention to
Mr. Frederic William and this astonishing
rot he has concocted. I am sending you
the book—if the German postal authorities
will let it through.

Yours Respectfully,
Amsterdam. Dr. J. D. S.

Editor's Note. The German postal authori-
ties have let the book through and we
shall turn our attention to this latest activity
of Mr. Freddy Villyum Wile in due course.

Coming Trouble.

To the Editor.
Keep up the good work, especially now,
that the goal is near. The late victories in
Russia will upset some of these American
ideas and English lies, as truth will conquer
at last. I have been thinking over this sub-
ject and wish to say to the American people
if they expect to live in peace in the future,
it is time now for American freemen to
divorce themselves forever from the English.
As England always has disturbed Anglomaniac
politics, she will again, and then she will
surely be the ally of Japan.

And the liability of trouble setting in with
Japan is more than likely. Japan claims Asia
for itself, now England will always find some
pretext to mix her politics with America as
long she is the sovereign of Canada. It
should be America for Americans and Europe
for itself. Were England deprived of her
great dominions, she might care better for
her own people.

Yours respectfully
Morris Salter.
Berne.

Suggestions Regarding New Loan.

To the Editor.
By adopting the following suggestions
our German friends might enhance the
success of the prospective "Kriegs-Anleihe":
1. If the banks will declare themselves
willing to forego deposit charges on the
new bonds and on the interest collected.
(Usual dep. charge is 1/2 %/ao.)
2. Names of subscribers and amount applied
for, to be published in the newspapers (with
consent of the subscribers).
3. Great success would be attained if
amount placed in these bonds (repayable in
5—10 years) were not subject to Income Tax.
Sincerely Yours,
Frankfurt a. M. Simon W. Hanauer.

THE KAISER'S GIFT.

By John L. Stoddard.

(On August 7th 1915, a solemn ceremony
was enacted in Damascus, when a beautiful
lamp, presented by the German Emperor,
was lighted before the tomb of the great
Saracenic hero of the Crusades—Saladin, re-
nowned no less for his chivalry than for his
valor.)

Damascus, shrine of Moslem dreams!
Millenniums of fame
Add lustre to thy crystal streams
And romance to thy name;
But now a light, which till tonight
Thy Mosque had never seen,
Pervades the room, where stands the tomb
Of gallant Saladin.

A precious lamp's undying flame
Above the hero's grave
Shall henceforth, in the Kaiser's name,
Do honor to the brave;
For royally and loyally
The German Paladin
Greets nobly here a worthy peer
In kingly Saladin.

The kindness of this Saracen
To Christian foes displayed,
The deeds, which stirred the hearts of men
Throughout the great Crusade,—
All make the foe of long ago
In ancient Palestine
Deserve the praise the Emperor pays
This knightly Damascene.

Knight of the North, thy tacitful gift
Hath thrilled the Moslem world,
Whose sons once more with ardor lift
The Prophet's flag, unfurled;
From Yildiz Kiosk to Delhi's Mosque,
From Kurds to Fellaheen
Ascends the prayer,—“May Allah spare
The friend of Saladin!”

From Riga to Gallipoli,
From Flanders to Lorraine,
In Tyrol and in Tripoli
The Turks and Teutons gain.
Such battles fought, such wonders wrought!
What can their triumphs mean,
If not that they possess to-day
The soul of Saladin?

RESPONSIBILITY FOR LUSITANIA DISASTER.

Have Custom Officials and Ship Officers Evaded The Law?—Are They Guilty of Manslaughter?

By Francis J. L. Dor, Editor "The Vital Issue".

The editor of this paper has spent the greater part of the last two weeks trying to locate and fasten the responsibility for the Lusitania disaster. After a week's investigation and discussion with officials in Washington, some statistics of the laws of the United States were discovered which have a peculiar bearing on the transportation of dangerous articles by passenger ships.

These laws were enacted in 1882 and amended in 1903, 1904 and 1908. Section 8 of 1882 reads as follows:

"That it shall not be lawful to take, carry, or have on board of any such steamship or other vessel any nitro-glycerine, dynamite, or any other explosive article or compound, nor any vitrol or like acids, nor gunpowder, except for the ship's use, nor any article or number of articles, whether as cargo or ballast, which, by reason of the nature or quantity or mode of storage thereof, shall either singly or collectively, be likely to endanger the health or the lives of the passengers or the safety of the vessel. * * * For every violation of any of the provisions of this section the master of the vessel shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, and be imprisoned for a period not exceeding one year."

By these same regulations a number of supervising inspectors are supposed to examine carefully the cargo of each passenger-carrying steamer. These inspectors are paid from \$3,000 to \$4,500 a year. Either they failed in their duty or else this cargo of dangerous explosive materials, highly inflammable, was marked falsely. Section 4476 covers this infringement. Quote 4476. Therefore if the inspection was to blame, then the shippers of this cargo are subject to a fine not exceeding \$2,000, or an imprisonment not exceeding eighteen months, or both.

The Cunard Line must certainly have known the nature of this deadly cargo. So no matter at whose door the ultimate blame is placed the officials of the Cunard Line were criminally negligent. Section 4499 covers the liability of the Cunard Line.

Quote 4499.

In order to be sure that the first regulation quoted above might not be misunderstood an additional regulation is here quoted: Section 4278.

"It shall not be lawful to transport, carry, or convey, ship, deliver on board, or cause to be delivered on board, the substance or article known or designated as nitro-glycerine, or glycol oil, nitrooleum or blasting oil, or nitrated oil, or powder mixed with any such oil, or fiber saturated with any such article or substance, upon or in any vessel or vehicle used or employed in transporting passengers by land or water between a place in any foreign country and a place within the limits of any State, Territory, or district thereof."

Some may say the Lusitania was an English ship, and hence not subject to American regulations. This is incorrect, for the crew and captain of any ship docking at an American port are subject to the shipping laws of America. The act covering this point reads: "The master of a vessel coming to a port or place in the United States, in violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor."

The captain purposely fired only one torpedo with the intention of allowing the passengers time to escape in the boats. This torpedo would probably not have caused the sinking of so large a ship within a short time had not the explosion of the cargo torn out the whole bottom of the ship. Thus we see that the loss of life is not solely due to a German submarine on whom, however, the whole blame is laid.

Section 12 of this same Act reads:

"That the provision of this act shall apply to every steamship or other vessel whereon emigrant passengers, or passengers other than cabin passengers, are taken on board at a port or place in the United States for conveyance to any port or place in a foreign country, * * * and the said collector of customs may direct an examination of the vessel to be made by an inspector or other officer of the customs, who shall make the examination and report whether the provisions of this act have been complied with in respect to such vessel, and the said collector is authorized to withhold the clearance of such vessel until the coming in of such report; and if the said report shall show that any of the provisions of this act have not been complied with, the collector is authorized and directed to withhold the clearance of such vessel until the said provisions are complied with; and if any such vessel leaves the aforesaid port or place without having been duly cleared by the collector of customs, the master shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and may be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not exceeding one year, and the vessel shall be liable to seizure and forfeiture. That he amount of the several fines and penalties

imposed * * * shall be liens upon such vessel, and such vessel may be libeled therefore in any circuit or district court of the United States where such vessel shall arrive or depart."

Was this not a case for the Collector of the Port of New York to withhold the clearance of the Lusitania until the provisions of this law had been complied with? Will this official be subject to a fine, and an imprisonment? Are not the officers of the boat equally culpable, and, according to the law, subject to fines or imprisonment? In addition, the owner of the boat, namely, the Cunard line, is open to the charge of *Manslaughter* and subject to "confinement to hard labor" for ten years. Section 5344 covering this point reads:

"Every captain, engineer, pilot, or other person employed on any steamboat or vessel, by whose misconduct, negligence, or inattention to his duties on such vessel the life of any person is destroyed, and every owner, charterer, inspector, or other public officer, through whose fraud, neglect, connivance, misconduct, or violation of law, the life of any person is destroyed, shall be deemed guilty of the felony of manslaughter, and upon conviction thereof, before any circuit court of the United States, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$10,000, or confinement at hard labor for a period of not more than ten years, or either, or both * * * any executive officer of such corporation, * * * who has knowingly and willfully caused or allowed such fraud, neglect, connivance, misconduct, or violation of law, by which the life of any person is destroyed, shall be deemed guilty of the felony of manslaughter, and upon conviction thereof, before any circuit court of the United States, shall be sentenced to confinement at hard labor for a period of not more than ten years."

But back of all these intermediary criminals rests the real criminal, who risked 2,000 lives. Sections 5353 and 5354 cover the case of this criminal exactly.

"Every person who knowingly transports, or delivers, or causes to be delivered, nitro-glycerine, nitrooleum or blasting oil, or nitrated oil, or powder mixed with any such oil, or fiber saturated with any substance or article, on board any vessel or vehicle whatever, employed in conveying passengers by land or water between any place in a foreign country, and any place within the United States, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars; one-half to the use of the informer. When the death of any person is caused by the explosion of any quantity of such articles, or either of them, * * * every person who knowingly placed or aided, is guilty of manslaughter, and shall suffer imprisonment for a period not less than two years."

Under these stringent regulations how was it possible for such a dangerous cargo to be carried upon a ship carrying cabin and steerage passengers? It is highly probable that if the articles quoted above had been enforced, there would have been no loss of life upon the Lusitania. A collision with another ship, the striking of a submerged rock, the possibility of internal combustion, the likelihood of fire on board the ship—a mere shock—might have caused an explosion and sunk the ship.

The investigation is in the hands of attorneys, and if it is possible to reach negligent customs officers or the officials of the Cunard Line, no means will be spared. If it is prohibitive to transport explosives on a passenger train because of its danger, it certainly is even more dangerous on a passenger ship. Many cities even allow only limited quantities of explosives transported through their streets. I am specially interested to learn whether any picric acid, toluol, etc., was loaded on the boat.

Whatever the outcome of the investigation and complaint may be, it is certain that the spirit of the law has been grossly offended. The Cunard Line stands even now as morally condemned.

"Hear! Hear!"

"It is nothing less than a national scandal that Parliament should at this crisis stand adjourned for six weeks' holiday. The nation, truly, cannot be saved by talk, but still less can it be saved by an irresponsible and nerveless Government. It is only through the House of Commons and the Press that the will of the nation can find expression. At the present moment two-thirds of the public Press is busily pouring soothing syrup between the softly-smiling lips of a deluded people while the other third is being savagely denounced as treasonable and disloyal because it is willing to face the facts. Why should we any longer linger in this fool's paradise of self-satisfied complacency?"

We are drifting dangerously in the direction of defeat temperamentally. I am an optimist *pur-sang*, but none the less I cannot but read the writing on the wall." (Letter to *Daily Mail*.)

THE RIGHTS OF NEUTRALS.

England Isolates Them. Goods Lying in Holland.

By Dr. Heinrich Mataja, Member of Parliament.

Reading French newspapers has become rather a tiresome affair. In all of them and in every number the same phrases are repeated with slight changes and embellishments. Subjects: first, the horrible deeds committed by the German army; second, the impending collapse of Germany; third, France, the defender of humanity, civilization and the rights of neutrals. The year 1870 in a second edition. To-day, it is reported that twelve German princes, among them members of the Imperial House and a descendant of Prince Bismarck, have had themselves transferred to safe positions to escape the dangers of the front; to-morrow, one reads that surgeons of the Red Cross steal ward-robes, beds, stoves and arm-chairs. And so they continue from day to day with silly inventions of the same sort; "lies as great as the hills, and as obvious." Of the social democracy of Germany it is said: they are playing the same game as the German government in order to create in France and England a movement for a premature peace; this they declare to be Germany's eager wish, and so France, England and Russia are to be induced to allow the German Empire to break off before defeat comes.

French Audacity.

The French press has the audacity to dish up such twaddle to its readers after twelve months of war, during which, the allies have not achieved a single success; to do it at this time, when the German armies occupy Belgium and North-Eastern France, when the united armies of Germany and Austria-Hungary stand in Russian Poland and in Bessarabia, when the Italian offensive has failed to fulfil the most modest expectations, and when the attack upon the Dardanelles, according to the confession of the English themselves, has failed miserably.

As to what concerns the rights of neutrals and the protection intended, or shall we say the respect shown, to these rights by the Entente, a short stay in neutral countries affords the best object lesson.

The neutral lands, like all modern states, are largely dependent upon foreign commerce and especially overseas trade. England exploits this circumstance to compel neutrals to be the executors of her will in seeking to isolate the Central Powers. She has forced Switzerland to organize an export association to which notice must be given of every intended export of goods. In Holland there has existed for some time the "Netherlands Overseas Trust Company" to which must be reported, not only every intended export, but also all expected imports. The English control begins consequently as soon as the Holland merchant wishes to procure goods from across the sea. At that moment he must guarantee that the merchandise is under no circumstances to be allowed to reach Germany or Austria.

Notice that the question is not concerning the prevention of deliveries for army use, not about ammunition, weapons, or war supplies in general, the purpose is to cut off food-supplies for the civil population, and England makes no exception in the case of hospitals or charitable institutions.

But that is not the whole of the case. Holland herself possesses supplies, that is, her own products and those earlier imported. It is however an open secret that none of these goods dare be exported, even in cases where there is no officially proclaimed export prohibition. England has threatened, in what form is not exactly known, that if this is done, she will at once isolate Holland and seize her colonies. As if a victorious England would in any case think of leaving Java and Sumatra in the possession of Holland. It is thus that England respects the rights of neutrals, it is thus she upholds civilization and humanity! And M. Viviani has the audacity to say that the civilization of the allies respects itself, and pooh-poohs the judgment of mankind and the verdict of history.

It is difficult to understand how the Paris and London newspapers, in the face of this barbaric procedure, still dare, with a pretence of moral indignation, to protest against the German submarine warfare. England and France prevent as far as they can the feeding of our civil population. Only an idiot can dispute our right to protect ourselves by repaying like with like.

Hollow Phrases.

The German submarines in the depths of the North Sea will not let themselves be turned aside by hollow phrases that seek to conceal the barbarity of the starving-out plan. The attempt to subdue the Central Powers in this way is, thank God, a vain one, for our agriculture is not suffering any depression, and we can provide for ourselves. But it is a crime under the sham of lying catchwords to seek to create such bitter hate between the nations, which assuredly must once again through international intercourse endeavour to build up the interests of true civilization and of real humanity.

It cannot be denied that the large dealers and manufacturers in neutral countries have

THE CASE OF CHRISTIAN DE WET.

An English Woman's Plea For Magnanimity.

By J. Margaret Robinson.

Amongst the Transvaal Boers, who gained everlasting fame in their memorable stand for independence, few rank so highly as Christian de Wet. His indomitable courage, his inexhaustible resourcefulness, his high-mindedness and fairness have won him a lasting position amongst the ever popular heroes that risked all for their nation—and not only amongst those who sympathised with the Boer cause itself—my compatriots have always known how to respect an enemy who knew how to stand up for his own cause without flinching. And to the best men and women of the English-speaking race, my plea is made in the case of de Wet. In the same way that the names of William Tell and Andreas Hofer are known in every English history book—and respected as great men and heroes—so must needs become the name of Christian de Wet.

I was intensely a pro-Boer in the Anglo-Boer war 1900–1901, and so were mostly the Liberal members of the parliament at that time, including Mr. Lloyd George—eight years of office seems to turn Liberals into officials and officials into reactionaries, however.

Threatening to make their influence felt in South Africa next to the United States of South Africa, the Germans had laid out a colony of their own. What was going to be the attitude of the population of the South African Federated States? It was to be expected the English would be biased and take sides against Germany.

But surely the government ought to have remained neutral, and what about the Boers, who only 12 years ago had felt the strong hand of militarism round their necks—they had not forgotten how in their struggle for independence the German people, if not "the German government, had stood side by side with them." Amongst the population of German South Africa there were not a small number of Boer families who had gone on "trek" in 1901—why should those old Boer families and warriors of Transvaal and Free State now take up the cudgels of another animosity and go and make war on the German colonists? They had no quarrel with them. If the Germans threatened to attack their colony, they would have stood up in self-defence! But to go and attack these peaceful neighbours went against their conscience. Let us bear in mind that the Boer war is of recent history and the fine policy of Campbell-Bannerman cannot in ten short years redeem the effect of Chamberlainism, that wretched school of politics and government, even more intensely disliked in England to-day than ever it was by not a small number.

It is because their conscience said "No!" to the Imperialistic policy of the Botha Government that de Wet and his men—not to be mixed up with de Maritz, who fully joined the enemy—took their stand against that government. Whether it was "wise" to give their opposition a call to arms is not for me to judge. But de Wet and his adherents have said their consciences urged them to do as they did. They only spoke the truth. Why should they have taken the risks they ran if not because they felt obliged to rebel and stand up for their point of view? It seems illogical to punish a man today for the same deed that made him a hero ten years ago.

Rebels, we know, when caught arms in hands are liable to the penalty of the law. But we also know how often the rebel of today, condemned and brought to death, becomes the worshipped hero of tomorrow. We all have but one life to lose and to sacrifice it to the cause one has at heart is not the worst form of losing it. A man like de Wet may be condemned, shot or thrown into prison, yet his fair fame will remain untarnished, a name which will re-echo down history revered and honoured among those who follow after us. General Louis Botha has chosen his part. He will not be remembered in the manner I have indicated. For men like de Wet one does not crave for mercy. They stand too high for such an appeal. We will only put in a plea for the righteousness of his cause, as seen in the light of his own conscience. We will only make our voices heard and say that no indignity should befall so worthy a man, whatever were his

done a very good business. At the beginning of the war especially, they disposed of their stocks at prices which rose by leaps and bounds. But since then neutral commerce has been interrupted by the interference policy of England, while at the same time, the price of provisions, at least in Holland, has risen to a great height. American commerce has also been greatly damaged, for the shipment of ammunition and arms cannot balance the loss in other respects.

The Entente powers have thus crippled the trade of neutral countries and misused their flags while their citizens are transported on vessels laden with ammunition, and consequently subjected to the danger arising from the war. The neutral states can draw for themselves the conclusion whether it corresponds to their interests and to their sovereignty to allow themselves to be deceived further by a jingle of words, in which

faults and however tragic his last act may have been.

Shall it be said in South Africa that the English Power of today is less high-minded and magnanimous than the Boer Government showed itself after the Jameson Raid? If it had succeeded there would have been an end to the Boer Republic—it meant an attack on the very life of their State. To condemn the raiders to death and to execute this judgment was their right, and if the Boer Government had acted in this spirit, no legal fault could have been found with it. However, it preferred magnanimity to formal justice, and Dr. Jameson and his co-prisoners were set at liberty.

This terrible war is bound to leave behind it a long trail of nationalistic antagonism. Is it necessary that by the undignified treatment of one of South Africa's best sons, the fire of mutual race hatred shall also be kindled over there? Already Fourie has fallen a victim to the law, more martyrdom would mean more bitter animosity. And if they lose this opportunity of committing an act of the highest generosity, how will they make good their claim that they are waging war on one of the worst evils of mankind, brutal power as symbolised in military force?

Since the capture of de Wet, capital punishment has been abolished in South Africa. But the judgment passed upon de Wet, has not been a generous one. Let us renew our efforts, so that a treatment as generous as that given to Dr. Jameson and his co-prisoners be bestowed on Christian. De Wet is no longer young and has already been heavily punished. Surely he might be allowed pardon and freedom on parole for the duration of the war, and ultimate liberty. We look to the women of South Africa to see this affair through to an honourable conclusion—believing as I do very deeply, it will redound to England's honour and to peace among men in the future. And as to His Excellency General Louis Botha, if he will resign his commission for a few hours or until his old comrade be let at liberty, his action would enhance his reputation and redound to his honour, and earn our deep gratitude.

It may be as well to mention here that in February last when I was in Holland, a committee was formed and an appeal was published in the Dutch press:

"Having regard to the scarcity and one-sidedness of the news from South Africa, judgment as to the justice of de Wet's armed opposition will have to be deferred, but it is felt that an appeal on behalf of de Wet is justified by the consideration that men like de Wet, the Rev. van Broekhuysen and other leaders can only have been prompted in their action by the conviction that their cause was a just and righteous one, and that those who are prepared to risk all for the common good have a claim on our respect and on the most generous terms from their successful antagonists."

In answer to our appeal for signatures to the petition to be presented to the Imperial and South African Parliaments for pardon for de Wet, 25,000 names were sent in 7 days by postcards, and the following cable was sent to the governments:

"To the Prince Minister:

A committee of 20 Female artists, authors, social and political workers, speaking in the name of over 25,000 Dutch, Flemish and English women, begs to express to your Government the conviction that General de Wet and his co-prisoners by their devotion to and sacrifice for what they must needs believe a good and just cause have a claim on the respect and magnanimity of their victorious antagonists.

Signed: Madame Mees

Dr. Aletta Jacobs

Mrs. Dr. Margaret Robinson.

A state of war exists in England, and no one at this juncture knows how long it will last, it will be understood we are not so free to express opinions as in normal times. But I may mention that the high-class journals have made a favourable mention of our work and the editorial notes have been in many instances in the strain in which I now write. I hope devoutly General Christian de Wet will soon be set at liberty.

the Entente powers allege they are protecting neutrals while in fact they are ruining them.

"Business as Usual."

A colonel writing to the *Daily Mail* declares that a roaring trade is being done with medical certificates. People unfit for service present themselves for examination and then sell their certificates to shirkers.

English Dismissals.

For weeks the English papers have contained the following heading—"Dismissed from Service." Recently four officers were cashiered on one day, to judge by the list in the still uncashed *Daily Mail*.

Bribes for "Neutral" Spies.

The British Embassy at Athens publishes the fact that it is prepared to pay 200 pounds for information leading to the capture of submarines or vessels supplying these. Another instance of English corruption and English conception of neutrality.

British Prisoners in German Camps.

EXCLUSIVE AND OFFICIAL LISTS.

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Noel, Ferdinand, Priv., 1. Reg. 19. B. 6. D.
 Nichols, James, Priv., 2. Sherw. 18. B. 6. D.
 Neal, William, Corp.,
 Nachtergaele, Edward, Priv., Kol. R. 1. B. 2. C.
 Nottet, Harry, Serg., Dorset 5. B. 15. D. 2. C.
 Naydens, James, Priv., N. O. D. 18. Br.
 Naydens, Thomas, Priv., N. D. 18. B. 6. D. 3. C.
 Newton, Albert, Priv.,
 Newton, Bill, Priv.,
 Pimiston, Albert, Priv., 82. R. 7. B.
 Pledges, George, Priv.,
 Purcell, Patrick, Priv.,
 Power, Thomas, Priv., 2. J. R. 8. B.
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 Prichard, Vincent, Priv.,
 Palmer, Fred, Priv., 2. Sherw. 18. B. 6. D.
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 Plenty, William, Priv.,
 Padgett, John, Priv., D. L. J. 18. B. 6. D.
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 O'Brien, Matthew, Priv., Lancers 7. B. 3. D.
 O'Brien, Will, Priv., 2. Sher. For. 18. B. 6. D.
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 Owen, John, Priv., Buff. 16. B. 6. D.
 Oshat, Cornelius, Priv., D. C. L. D. 14. B. 15. D.
 Oldfield, William, Corp., Sherw. F. 18. B. 6. D. 3. C.
 Owen, Arthur, Priv., 82. R. 7. B.
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 Osborne, Walter, Priv., Royal 22. B. 7. D. 4. C.
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 Olwen, Alfred, Priv., Sherw. F. 18. B. 6. D. 3. C.
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 Potter, Herbert, Serg., Sherw. F. 18. B. 6. D.
 Philipson, Thomas, Priv., D. L. J. 18. B. 6. D.
 Platts, Arthur, Priv., Sherw. 18. B. 6. D.
 Paterson, Alfred, Priv.,
 Pratt, William, Priv.,
 Price, Thomas, Corp., Sherw. F. 18. B.
 Poach, Arth., Priv., S. L. 18. B.
 Piggels, André, Priv., Bradford 15. B. 5. D. 3. C.
 Pike, John, Priv., Dorset 15. B. 5. D. 5. C.
 Penman, William, Priv., 2. S. L. 7. B. 3. D.
 Percy, John, Corp., Dorset 15. B. 5. D.
 Phurlow, Arthur, Priv.,
 Peice, Eduard, Priv., 82. R. 7. B.
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 Panketh, Peter, Priv., Lanc. 3. D. 7. B.
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 Peace, Robert, Priv.,
 Pearson, Fred, Priv.,
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 Patridge, James, Priv., 2. D. L. J. 13. B. 4. D.
 Peck, Alfred, Priv., Foresters 13. B. 6. D.
 Perkins, Harry, Priv., 8. Sherw. 18. B. 6. D.
 Plumtree, Walter, Priv., Foresters 13. B. 6. D.
 Pryor, John, Priv., Sherw. 18. B. 6. D.
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 Parish, William, Corp., Sherw. 6. D. 8. B.
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 Payne, Thomas, Priv., Durham.
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 Martin, John, Priv., L. S. 7. B. 3. D.
 MacDonald, John, Priv., 2. S. L. 7. B. 3. D.
 MacGirr, Patrick, Priv., Irish.
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 Madden, Bergin, Priv., Sherw. F. 24. B.
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 Morris, Charles, Serg., Dorset 15. B. 5. D. 2. C.
 Murphy, Michael, Priv., 109. Ch. 17. B.
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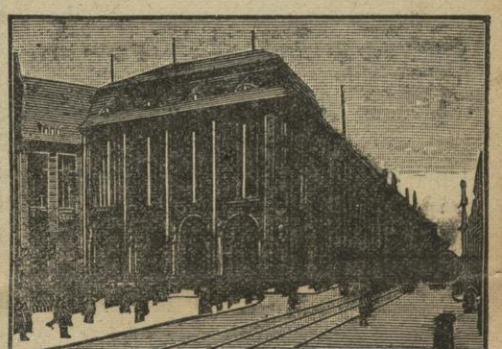
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