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## **Supplement: An orgy of cant. No. 1091. Vol. XXI. No. 24 February 26, 1915**

Berlin, Germany: Continental Times, G.m.b.H., February 26, 1915

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# The Continental Times

Special War Edition

A JOURNAL FOR AMERICANS IN EUROPE

No. 1091. Vol. XXI. No. 24.

ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN GENEVA VIENNA ROME

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1915.

**Latest News.**

Short items of interest from various sources.

**Russia Calls up her Last Reserves.**

Paris, February 25th. The Russian Embassy orders all reservists and Territorials, who are not already serving with the allies, to immediately return to Russia to serve with the colors.

**Zeppelin Bombards Calais Again.**

Stockholm, February 25th. *Svenska Dagbladet* learns from Paris that a Zeppelin airship, accompanied by two aeroplanes again bombarded Calais. Several people were wounded and a few houses damaged.

**The Submarine War.**

Rotterdam, February 25th. The Norwegian steamer *Orla* reports that in the Channel she observed wreckage and military apparel; the English steamer *Jervaux Abbey* also observed wreckage, pieces of uniforms and many mines.

Reuter, Newhaven, February 25th. The Cardiff steamer *Branksome* run against a mine or was torpedoed off Beachy Head. Another large steamer is in distress near the South Coast of England.

London, February 25th. The Admiralty announces that the auxiliary cruiser *Clan Mc Naughten* is missing. Wreckage belonging to the ship has been picked up. 20 officers and 260 men of the crew have probably been drowned.

Reuter, Ramsgate February 25th. 14 men of the crew of the steamer *Oakley* were landed here by the fishing smack *Gratia*. The *Oakley* was torpedoed near Rye.

Reuter, London, February 25th. The steamers *Rio Parana* and *Harpalion* have been torpedoed and sank off Beachy Head.

Paris, February 25th. The steamer *Marie*, while picking up mines in the harbour of Dunkerque, run against a floating mine and sank immediately. 4 men of the crew were drowned, several others were severely wounded.

Folkestone, February 25th. The British Admiralty announces that a mailboat was attacked by a submarine shortly after leaving Boulogne Harbour. The torpedo just missed the ship.

London, February 25th. The British Admiralty has prohibited shipping in the North Channel of the Irish Sea between sunset and sunrise.

Reuter, London, February 26th. The crew of the *Western Coast* was landed at Portsmouth that of the *Deptford* at Scarborough. Both steamers were sunk by torpedoes; also a steamer of unknown nationality was torpedoed near Eastbourne.

**Mutiny of Indian Regiment.**

Reuter, London, February 25th. A mutiny broke out among the soldiers of an Indian Regiment of infantry in Singapore. The rising was suppressed. 6 English officers, 16 men and 14 English civilians were killed, 9 soldiers and a number of civilians wounded. The number of casualties among the Indians is not stated.

**Another Aeroplane Raid on England.**

Reuter, London, February 25th. Seven hostile airships passed over Maplin Sands towards Colchester.

**Englands Answer to German Measures.**

London, February 25th. The allies intend to confiscate all German property on the high sea, under whatever flag it is shipped.

**Heavy Fighting in the Champagne.**

W.T.B. February 25th. Severe fighting is taking place in the Champagne, particularly near Perthes, where the French attempt daily to break through the German lines. All attacks have been repulsed; the French sustained heavy casualties and a large number were taken prisoners.

**Germans Take Praszynsz by Assault. Over 16 000 Prisoners in Northern Poland.**

W.T.B. February 25th. The fortified town of Praszynsz in Northern Poland was taken by assault by East Prussian Reserve units; more than 11 000 prisoners were made, 22 guns and large stores of machine guns and other war materials captured—5000 prisoners were made in other fights north of the Vistula.

**Youngsters called out.**

Lyons. Febr. 25th. *Le Nouvelliste* has received news from Paris that the 1916 class will be forthwith called to the colors.

**Success Achieved.**

Already it is evident that the submarine campaign has achieved its aim.

**England cornered.**

Great Britain cut off from the world by the hidden enemy. Heroism of the German sailors.

By Aubrey Stanhope.

Whilst the combined fleets of France and England are, figuratively, trembling at the entrance of the Dardanelles; like the timid bather frightened to wet his feet; bombarding the Turkish forts from a safe distance and not daring to make an attempt to force the entrance to the Sea of Marmora, German sailors in their hundreds are daily executing feats of valor well nigh incredible and pushing the enemy into sore straits. The German submarine fleet; hats off to its crews; are doing wonders. The operations of those submarine boats have only just begun and already one if not two transports containing British troops have been sunk, a dozen merchantmen have been disposed of and shipping service between England and the Continent is totally demoralised. And so far, to use a sporting term, we have only seen "the preliminary canter."

**The bitter taste.**

There were those who imagined that immediately after the announcement of the submarine invasion all ships at sea would suddenly be sunk. That was expecting the impossible. It was just one week yesterday since the waters of the British Isles and the English Channel were proclaimed by Germany as coming within the war zone. Already the English and French have had the bitter taste of dread thoroughly inspired into them, and have taken minute precautions to try and defend themselves against the dreaded enemy. But it has all been of little avail, ship after ship has been sunk and their names given, but many more are missing, and all that is known of them is that life buoys bearing their names and wreckage in quantities has been found floating about.

**Blood money.**

In face of the submarine invasion, even the loud mouthed braggart Churchill has ceased to fume and bluster about super-Dreadnoughts and the wondrous naval power of Great Britain. He has, it is stated, paraphrased Nelson's famous order as follows—"England expects every man to do his duty, which is to lie!" In other words to use the flags of other nations. That sprig of the house of Marlborough is, it is stated, the ruling spirit of a weak government which is pursuing the Ostrich like policy of concealing everything from the people in order that the precariousness of the position in which England finds herself may not be known to the people. And Winston Churchill has not yet made public the losses of the Audacious and Tiger. But on the other hand he has had the brilliant idea of offering a reward of \$ 1,000 to anyone who will sink one of "those horrible German submarines". So far the submarines have shown wonderful ability to take care of themselves, so that none has been able to claim the blood money which, in such truly commercial and British spirit, the First Lord of the Admiralty offers.

**Lots more to come.**

And, be it remembered, as stated above, that Germany has a lot more "up her sleeve" in preparation for "our cousins over the sea". The submarine invasion is but in its inception. Its organisation is being developed all the while and its range of action constantly extended. And the English government appears to be stricken with paralysis, apparently unable to think of anything practical to do against the great danger that threatens Great Britain. Appeals to America and the Neutral powers have utterly failed; the cry of "Huns" and "Barbarians", is played out and people merely smile when they hear it. Too much abuse has killed the cause of the abuser. And now, after having cried "wolf!" so often, no one believes any more when the same old cry is repeated. And all the government of mighty England can find to do against the submarine invasion of her coasts is to offer a vulgar money reward to anyone who will free her of the infliction. Surely an acknowledgment of utter helplessness which is unique in the annals of the government of a great country.

**America takes the hint.**

A note comes from the United States which tells how strongly the course of present events have found echo in that country of practical thought. The Marine Department of America has ordered forty sub-

marine boats to be built; on the other hand there is no special desire shown to follow the example of the English in building extraordinary numbers of the heavy armored line of battle ship, the possession of which Winston Churchill keeps impressing upon the British public, a sort of obsession of his own with which he seeks to once more fool the people into an artificial sense of security. The time will come, and it is not far distant, when the sheep-like British public will awaken and find out how terribly and lamentably it has been deceived by men of the type of Churchill and Northcliffe and then the sentiment of indignation and anger will be so great that such mischiefmakers will be the reviled of all their countrymen.

**German Prisoners.**

Frankfurt a. M., Febr. 25th. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* receives from Bern the announcement that the German Minister there has stated that extraordinary figures are given concerning the number of German prisoners. Truth is that to the end of January they were, in France and the French colonies, 49,350; in England 7,247 and in Russia 2030. But the *Frankfurter Zeitung* adds, the number of those in Russia is manifestly wrong and is near twenty thousand.

**Missing Aeronauts.**

Amsterdam, Febr. 25th. The recent aeroplane assault upon Ostende, which did not result in any damage which cannot very soon be repaired, has apparently cost the English the life of three of their pilots.

**Full of Confidence.****Austro-Hungary stands firm as a rock!**

Vienna, Febr. 24th. The *Neue Freie Presse* publishes a very interesting article from the pen of Baron Minarelli Fitzgerald, privy councillor and General of Infantry, of which the following is an extract.

France and England have ordered their mercantile ships to hoist neutral flags in order to save themselves from the German submarine boats and have thereby betrayed the neutral states.

England has gone further, inasmuch as she has armed her merchant ships with guns, so that they may make war upon the German submarines, whereby those ships have become ships of war.

Russia could not be behindhand and placed a whole battalion of her infantry in Austro-Hungarian uniforms which they had taken from the bodies of our dead and wounded and perfidiously sent that battalion into the Carpathians against our flank. Luckily the trick was speedily found out. What did it matter to the Russian commander that the men so captured were given over to court martial trial.

**The moral standing.**

All those things together characterise the moral standing amongst the allies, and raise doubts as to their military and maritime force, when they have to resort to such miserable subterfuges.

As England and France insisted upon waging a hunger blockade against Austria-Hungary and Germany, nothing remained for Germany to do but to have eye for eye, tooth for tooth and to adopt a hunger blockade against England.

The number of Russian prisoners in Austria-Hungary and Germany now amounts to no less than 700,000, and quite surely a half million of their soldiers have been buried and just as many must have become incapacitated by wounds and sickness. Together those losses reach such colossal figures and that with the vast losses of material, would seem to have even exhausted the vast reservoirs of Russia.

With rock like faith in the unshakable heroism which has formed an aureole of light around our army, we express from our innermost thought and to our last breath our faithfulness to the united war union of strength between Austria Hungary and Germany, and let us with elated hearts, like men, gaze into the future with the fullest confidence.

**An Open Letter.**

By Heinrich Reizes,

Member of the Austrian Parliament, to his Excellency Herr Sassanoff, Imperial Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

A great honor has been shown the Jews. In the speech before the Duma, in which you sought to give that body a "truthful" account of the conditions created by the war, you devoted one passage to the Jews. You declared in this, making at the same time a significant inclination towards the box in which the Ambassador of the United States was seated, that the reports concerning cruelties and pogroms committed by the Russians on the Jews were false, and had been invented by the German Government and its Ambassador in Washington for a purpose. The Jewish population had suffered, you said, only in the localities where hostilities were being carried on, and not more than it was impossible to avoid.

Verily it is a great honor done the Jews; for the Imperial minister for foreign affairs, in the midst of great historical events, dees them worthy of mention, and the Jews should feel joy and satisfaction at this if indeed such feelings can arise in these poor tormented people on whom such exquisite tortures have been inflicted. Even then the thought would be disturbing that it is not a sense of humanity or justice that has led you to busy yourself with the Jews, but the purpose to conceal from your allies, the "God-fearing" English, the barbarism rampant in your country, and yet more to set at rest public opinion in America, that true land of freedom. It makes indeed a singular impression, when you, the minister of an Empire, which is distinguished by a Peter and Paul fortress, by the hangmen Murawieff, Kaulbars and many such, by the Kishineff, Kieff and Kroz massacres, attempt to represent a nation of writers and thinkers as barbarians, and your land as the abode of freedom.

The purpose of these lines however is not to write a polemic, but to refute the intentional falsehood which you uttered when you denied the cruelties which the Russians during this war, have practised upon the Jews. As a Jew and a representative in Parliament, I feel myself called, and in duty bound, to make this refutation and to inform the people of America of the truth.

This is not the place to reproduce the whole of the material which has been collected. There will be time for that after the war, when a comprehensive review is taken of all that has happened. Je give below only some few of the facts:

1. Whenever in Galicia and the Bukovina your brave soldiers advanced against defenceless people, their first question was: where is the Jewish quarter? And they then attacked and plundered it.

2. As often as the Jews who had been plundered, made complaints to the Russian officers, the latter refused to take notice of this, with the declaration that it was not proper to punish a Russian soldier, even if he was a robber, for the sake of a Jew.

3. The cases in which Jewish women and girls have been violated by Russian soldiers, would require volumes to relate.

4. Jews, who even before the Russian invasion had manifested their love for their hereditary rulers, were in innumerable cases exposed by the Russians to the most refined cruelties.

5. No single Jewish property was left uninjured, even in districts in which the Russians stayed only a short time.

6. In Lemberg, the temporary seat of a governor-general, the Russians under his every eyes, inaugurated, during the days of a solemn Jewish festival, a bloody massacre, in which hundreds of innocent persons were the victims. The whole multitude of defenceless persons were fired upon, as if they had not been men,

but wild animals. The prayer service on the eve of the day of Atonement could not be held.

7. In the Bukowina, which has recently been freed from the Russians, these not only did not pay the Jews for the things they requisitioned, but they threatened to burn down their houses, which in many cases, they actually did.

8. In Russian Poland, where passions have been aroused to the highest pitch by the war, your government stirred up, in a way unheard of before, the lowest elements of the population to murder and rob the Jews.

9. In the same district, your government ordered all the Jews, on a signal being given, to assemble at a certain place. When the Jews in several towns presented themselves in obedience to this order, they were commanded to leave the respective towns within three hours; the disobedient were to be punished by a court-martial as spies. Naturally all obeyed. Thousands and thousands were driven away under an escort of soldiers, from their homes and their possessions, and urged on by whips to ever greater haste by the inhuman soldiery. The sight of these men and women, old persons and children, dragging themselves along, is said to have been heart-breaking. Only their executioners had no feeling for them. When the aim of their journey was reached, the village in which the unfortunates were to remain until the end of the war, half of the wanderers were missing, they had perished on the way from hunger, cold, exhaustion and illness, or under the blows of the savages who were conducting them.

10. The knowledge of the crimes which have been committed against the Jews in the interior of Russia makes its way now during the war, with difficulty over the frontier, but the pogroms have but slightly ceased, and the frightful burdens under which the poor Jews suffer are yet heavier than before. How inhuman, stupidly inhuman, it is, that Jewish wives and mothers are not allowed to go to their wounded or severely ill husbands and sons who have been serving in the army, because the military hospitals lie outside of the settlement radius. How heartless this is towards the sufferers, who have become such in the service of the State. To compel a half million of Jews to serve under arms, and then to treat them and their families as outlaws and social lepers, that is a genuine Russian procedure.

If it be true that history is the judgment of mankind, then, Sir, the sentence to be passed on Russia and her accomplices will be a terrible one. But in no case mention the Jews in your speeches. Sanctimoniousness has been for a long time back, one of the theatrical properties of Russian ministers, but in the Jewish question every attempt of Russia to cleanse herself is ludicrous and in vain.

If there is a public opinion which allows itself to be led by justice and the love of Freedom, and if this public opinion exercises an influence on the stand taken by neutral states, then their place can never be on the side of Russia.

This should be said with positiveness of the great North American Union. The land of Washington and of Lincoln will not let itself be deluded by the Empire to which the Plehwas and the Jgnatieffs belong, by the country which is the home of continuous massacres.

(sgd.) Heinrich Reizes  
Member of the Austrian Parliament.

**Admit Defeat.**

London. Febr. 25th. It took the newspapers a long time to admit the severe defeat of the Russians in the Masurian lake district, where the 10th army was practically wiped out. The Daily News admits that the news is bad but says that England must take it philosophically as is done in Petersburg. But the full extent of the disaster which has overtaken the Russians is carefully concealed here. The public is encouraged to cheer up, as Warsaw is not yet taken.



# THE CONTINENTAL TIMES.

## The Continental Times

Published three times a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
A cosmopolitan newspaper, free of political bias,  
published in the interests of Americans, also as a  
convenient medium for Advertisers in America and  
Europe to reach their customers at small expense.

Address all communications:.....

### The Continental Times

Berlin W. 50, Augsburger Strasse 38

Telephone: Steinplatz 7860

Editor, Cha. White, Berlin.

Printed by R. Saling & Co., Berlin SW. 68.

### Subscription Rates.

By mail postage paid per month:

Germany . . . 2 Marks Switzerland . . . 3 Francs

Austria . . . 2 1/2 Kronen United States . . . 75 Cents

Italy . . . 3 Lires Holland . . . 2 Guilden

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### Great Cruelty.

Sven Hedin, the world famed traveller,

explorer and philosopher tells in his new

book, of which we print an extract in

another column, of the intense cruelty inflicted

upon the Indian troops used by the English,

and by them brought over to face the rigors

of a European winter in a campaign against

the best soldiers in the world. He has had

experience of the Hindoos in his voyages

through Tibet and he speaks from practical

experience when he says that they are totally

unfitted to resist cold and that to expose

them to it is a criminal folly. The English

must have known that, yet those poor and

fragile black folk were mercilessly and cruelly

dragged out of their native country to fight

the battles of the English in Europe in mid-

winter. As Sven Hedin remarks, what the

survivors will tell when they get home will

not be calculated to augment the popularity

of the English in India. Already we hear

of mutinies amongst the colored troops there.

And, no wonder!

### Certainly Not!

A person signing himself F. M. Billington

of Philadelphia calling himself an "American",

whatever that may mean, in a letter dated

from the Hotel du Passage, Haag, writes a

lot of nonsense and abusive trash and ends

up "I shall look for publication of this letter

in one of your next weeks issues and if it

does not appear I will send copies to the

chief American Dailies". Certainly Not! is

our reply. Billington or Billingsgate, or

whatever his real name happens to be, may

wait till Doomsday before his letter be

published in our Open Tribune, which is

not meant to be utilised for the publication

of such vulgar matter as this "American"

pens, but for interesting letters written in

decent form. Go ahead Billington or

Billingsgate; send your wondrous composition

to all the American dailies and we will be

everlastingly grateful to you for the advertise-

ment. In the meantime it may be interesting

to you to know that the *Continental Times*

is going full speed ahead, with a booming

circulation, and that each post brings letters

brimming with thanks and congratulations

for the good work we are doing in telling

the truth. If the "chief American Dailies"

would do the same, and tell the truth, instead

of filling their columns with English inspired

lies, the public in the United States would

be better served.

### Lord Northcliffe's three-and-sixpenny

### Swindle.

The Daily Mail of Febr. 18 publishes a

photo of "The sinking Blücher," reproduc-

tions of which may be had for the modest

price of 3/6. The picture claims to show

"the world for the first time the most dra-

matic moment of history's first battle of

Dreadnoughts." The Blücher, it should be

remarked, was no Dreadnought at all, but

simply a vessel of 15 000 tons, and was wrecked

by the concentrated fire of several British

Dreadnoughts, the tonnage of each of

which was approximately double that of the

Blücher, whilst the guns of these vessels

were of such a superior calibre, that they

could destroy the Blücher at a long range

without themselves incurring the very slightest

danger from this ship. In the description of

the picture the Daily Mail goes on to tell

it's credulous readers that the ship turned

over, when a number of the crew were seen

walking her bottom! It needs very little powers

of observation to perceive from the picture,

that the crew could not have been walking her

bottom, for the ship is lying on her side, and

even Germans, wicked as they are supposed

to be, have not yet learnt the art of walking

on a perpendicular plane. It is absolutely

impossible to detect "some of the men on

the side, who have stripped and are wearing

swimming-jackets", even with a magnifying

glass. But above all, this three-and-sixpenny

venture is feeble, because the whole photo

is undoubtedly "faked", and there is all the

more reason for making this statement, be-

cause, on the one hand, the cruiser from

which the photo is said to have been taken,

is not mentioned, nor is the name of the

ingenious photographer given. There would

be no reason for withholding these from the

British public, for Germany could derive no

advantage from it. But no doubt Lord

Northcliffe will make a very handsome sum

out of this little venture, and "business is

business".

Graf A. von Bothmer-Wiesbaden.

## Prisoners of Germany.

Dr. A. Barkan, Emeritus Professor of

Stanford University, California tells

of what he saw.

### Substantial food.

Treated with due regard to hygiene

and humanity. Amongst the soldiers.

Professor Barkan has published a pamphlet,

on his return to California, telling of what

he saw of prisoners and their treatment,

during a recent stay in Germany. As an

American citizen and a physician his request

to visit the fortress of Ingolstadt was at

once granted. That fort served as a home

for 700 French officers. He found five or

six officers dwelling together in a room

which would comfortably accommodate three

times that number. A French General who

was there, dressed in military garb, as all

comrades, expressed himself as contented

with the treatment received. His adjutant

shared the room with him. The General as well

as the other officers had French soldier

servants assigned to them.

### Ample meals.

The kitchen was large and well arranged,

several French soldier-cooks and a few

German ones providing the officers mess

three times daily with ample and palatable

meals. Excellent drinking water and a mo-

derate amount of alcoholic drinks is granted

the officers with their meals. A French priest,

also a prisoner, reads mass every Sunday

in one of the rooms arranged as a chapel.

The officers take part in the service

zealously. They are allowed to read

newspapers and many of them who know

German make use of this privilege. They

receive a monthly pay according to their

rank on a basis corresponding to that

of the German officers. Twice a week the

tradesmen of Ingolstadt send an agent out

with a well arranged cart full of all kinds

of wares, — linen, clothing, books, cigars,

paper and an assortment of luxuries as well

as practical things. The officers receive

ample money in postal orders from friends

at home forwarded to them through a neutral

country, usually Switzerland. They make

liberal use of this by supplying themselves

ad lib. with these goods.

### Jolly prisoners.

Our visit at the second fort proved quite

a jolly one. The prisoners of war interned

were also without exception Frenchmen and

common soldiers. They were kept in military

order by some of their own sergeants and

non-commissioned officers.

At the time of our arrival the evening meal

was being served in large pots. The soup

was made of potatoes with a fair amount of

sausage added to it. The captain in charge

of the fort insisted upon my tasting it, and the

men and the cooks who filled the great kitchen

grinned at the tempo and gusto with which

I made away with my share of the soup.

It was pleasant to watch the good humour

and the vivacity of the crowds of French

soldiers which humourously reminded me

almost of an operette. There was no mis-

judging their pleasurable anticipation of a

warm evening meal. They were all in a

lively mood and I can say, having had

a good look at them, that on the whole

they appeared well nourished, although in

comparison with the manly officers they

were of a decidedly inferior physique.

### New barracks.

From our guide, Captain N—, in time of

peace a well-known merchant of Frankfurt,—

I learned that wooden barracks were being

built by the Government in great numbers

and comfortably arranged, for winter use,

a task in which the prisoners materially

assisted.

In the new quarters each soldier will have

his own bedstead and covers; heating, light

and ventilation will be well provided for.

The health of the soldiers was said to be

quite satisfactory; in case of slight ailments

they are attended by French physicians, but

the more serious cases are transferred to a

large military hospital outside the forts where

they are treated by German military sur-

geons. Whenever needed, a small number

of soldiers who like their officers are given

freedom of movement inside the fort, are

being used for light work. We met several

such troops within the streets of the city

proper, under military surveillance. They

seemed all the better off for a little occupa-

tion which served as a pastime.

### Justly treated.

Our visit to these two forts occupied fully

three hours and my strong impression was

that every prisoner-of-war whether an officer

or a soldier was receiving just treatment and

one suitable to his previous station in life.

The authorities gladly meet any reasonable

request.

"With somewhat heavy heart", Dr. Barkan

concludes, "I had gone on my tour. I finished

the same in rather cheerful spirits. I could

not but strongly realise that German methods

were carried on, here also, with due regard

to hygiene and humanity."

### The Church to Pay.

Zurich, Febr. 25th. The Russian government

calls upon the monasteries to pay a sum of

200 000 000 of roubles towards the expenses

of war.

## Austria-Hungary's Economic

## Position.

Herr v. Gwinner, the Director of the

"Deutsche Bank" made some very interesting

observations on the economic conditions in

Austria-Hungary and Germany to the re-

presentative of a Vienna newspaper.

As far as the German Empire is con-

cerned, Herr v. Gwinner said, the latest

proof of its trust to the future is given in

the impending issue of the second war

loan. The result will in all probability be

very favourable.

As regards the Austro-Hungarian Mo-

narchy, Herr v. Gwinner shares the opinion

of all leading financial and industrial circles

in Germany, that the Monarchy's economic

efficiency has far surpassed the highest ex-

pectations. This not only as far as the war

loan is concerned, but also with regard to

the quickness with which Austro-Hungarian

economic life has adapted itself to the con-

ditions, created by the war. The economic

life of the Monarchy has passed the severe

test of the war on account of its firm foun-

dation and excellent organization.

### More Propositions.

A second American note in reply to that

of Germany has been received.

The United States has sent a reply to the

reply of Germany to the first note sent by

America concerning the submarine invasion

of the British Isles and the waters of the

English Channel. It is a somewhat lengthy

document and makes a number of new pro-

positions which are being duly considered

and will be replied to as soon as possible.

The present American note is not considered

to have any special features which can harm

the good entente which reigns between the

two countries. In the meanwhile the invasion

of the German submarines, in those waters

prescribed as coming within the war zone,

has been a decided success, for it has had

the object of utterly disorganising trade with

Great Britain from over the seas.

### Bolstered financing.

According to Mr Lloyd George the issue

of ten millions worth of Russian Treasury

Bonds in London was a great success. But

from Brussels one hears that the issue was

merely a bolstered up financial arrangement,

that is to say, that in spite of the high interest

offered; about 10% the British public was

not to be tempted to take more than half



# WAR DIARY.

February 15th, 1915.

The American note to England is published also. It seems that it is rather mild, only calling the attention of the British government to the fact that there was a difference between the voluntary action of a single captain occasionally flying a neutral flag to escape hostile warships, and the general instruction, by a belligerent power, of merchant ships to regularly fly neutral flags. The American government maintains that such attitude by a belligerent government must have serious consequences for all neutral countries, because it could be used as a pretext by another belligerent power to disregard entirely all legal rights of neutrals. The note expresses the hope that the British government would not advise British ships to fly neutral flags because such procedure would be considered with alarm as a serious and continuous danger for American lives and property. The British government should avoid being held responsible, to some extent at least, for the loss of American lives and property in case of an attack by hostile warships, by instructing British vessels to desist from flying the American flag in war territory.

One of the best known authorities of international law, professor Dr. Wach of the university of Leipzig, in an article published by a Leipzig paper, calls the American note to Germany a strange product of poor logic and the absence of fairness. He says, the American government demands from Germany to respect the American flag if it is used, until the Germans had convinced themselves of its illegal use, forgetting entirely that every government had the duty to compel all powers equally to respect its flag. When one power was entitled, or permitted, to disrespect it, then the necessary consequence was that the other party could not be expected to respect it. If the American government would fail to insist, that the means announcing the nationality of its ships were respected, it would lose the right to have its flag respected. It would even become an accomplice of the fraudulent attitude of England.

French papers are generally dissatisfied with both notes. From their standpoint, the note to Germany is not strong enough while they consider the one to England as unfair. The English press, it seems, is equally dissatisfied and expects, that the British government would not change its attitude in the matter. The result is that both notes have utterly failed to gain anything and have dissatisfied everybody. This is always the consequence if a man or a government is unable to take a decided stand, but tries to be obliging and severe at the same time to all concerned. The only logical way would have been, first to insist peremptorily that England strictly respected the American flag, and then to see that Germany took proper measures to protect American ships against all danger as far as compatible with the proper conduct of the war.

February 16th 1915.

The German government has again called the attention of neutral powers to the dangers awaiting neutral ships in the territory around the British coast, declared by Germany as war territory. The circular explains that England not only continues to permit and foster the use of neutral flags by English ships but that even other means to make the nationality of a neutral ship visible are being imitated by English shipowners, thus making it impossible for German submarine boats to distinguish between hostile and neutral ships. But more than this, with the consent and advice of the British government, British merchant vessels were armed with guns to open fire upon demergering submarine boats, or instructed to rain such boats or destroy them by throwing hand bombs etc. This being the case, no vessel flying a neutral flag in war territory would be safe from being taken for a hostile ship and torpedoed without warning, because all English merchant vessels, being armed and instructed to destroy the attacking vessel, were to be considered as men-of-war. The Harwich line have already ordered their ships painted like those of the Batavia line showing the Dutch colors at the hull. As Germany is resolved and in a position to carry out her threats we can expect a very unpleasant period of warfare, as is always the case when England is engaged in a life and death struggle. England is used to reign supreme and to disregard all rules and regulations if contrary to her interests, but is morally shocked if any other power feels compelled to do the same.

Holland has presented to Germany a note of protest against the announcement of the waters around the British islands as war territory, the note being identical with the one presented to England when she declared a large part of the North sea as war territory. As the first protest was of no result this one will not be either. Besides, Holland has protested at London at nineteen different times, without avail.

London papers hear that Count Bernstorff communicated to the American government once more, Germany was compelled to reckless warfare as long as England cut off the supply of food stuffs, indicating that Germany would

change her methods as soon as England would. I do not know whether it is true or not, but it sounds quite plausible.

In connection herewith is the treatment of the American steamer "Wilhelmina." She has a cargo of grain for Germany on board and intended to go directly to Hamburg without touching England, but encountered such heavy storms that she was compelled to run into the port of Falmouth. Now the British government is "investigating" the cargo. Probably it will be confiscated, the British government using the control of grain stores by the government in Germany as a pretext. If the British government maintains that the first order of the German government to confiscate all stores of grain had been rescinded to evade the confiscation of the "Wilhelmina's" cargo, it is too thin not to be looked through. Firstly, there has been no general confiscation of grain by the government, but only the existing quantity is being controlled and distributed under the auspices of the government in order to avoid any waste of foodstuffs, so that the population could live until the next harvest without depending upon importation of grain. And secondly, no order had to be rescinded, because from the beginning foreign grain imported from abroad, was to be exempt from any control. It is too silly to assert the contrary, and it is almost an insult to the United States government by Great Britain to base its policy on such grounds.

Lloyd George and Winston Churchill are rivals in more than one respect, but especially in making the boldest and most remarkable statements in public. Just at present Lloyd George is on top. Introducing the budget in parliament, he explained the common war expense of the allied powers would amount to about twenty billion pounds of which England would have to bear about 150 millions more than the other allies, id est about 760 million pounds. And then he added: the allies were fighting the entire mobilized strength of Germany with less than one third of their own strength. Such frivolous statements are bordering on insanity. If a private person should brag like that he would be considered ripe for a lunatic asylum. To think of it: the allies were using less than one third of their strength while France and Russia are nearly bankrupt, while France is sending to the front conscripts not volunteers of between seventeen and fifty years of age, while Russia is bending years' effort to fill up the appalling losses in her armies beaten several times along the whole line! This effort on the part of Lloyd George spurred Mr. Winston Churchill to a still greater one. Immediately after his rival he introduced this year's naval estimates, and declared that after six months of war England had every reason to be satisfied with the result, as the British fleet had been fully able to meet all exigencies. Once a powerful German squadron existed in the Pacific. Two small cruisers and two auxiliaries was all which remained of German preparations to attack England's highways of commerce, and they were hiding themselves. In spite of this effort of Mr. Winston Churchill his rival deserves the cake. A powerful German squadron in the Pacific? Two large and two small cruisers, all more than ten years old—a powerful squadron? Why, this is more than modest on the part of Mr. Winston Churchill. And is there no attack on British commercial highways? Mr. Winston Churchill must have been fast asleep during these last years if he has not heard of German submarine boats. Has he forgotten entirely that just the day before the British admiralty, whose head he is, issued the order not to publish any more the names of British merchant vessels destroyed by mines or German submarine boats in order not to frighten the general public?

February 17th, 1915.

The German answer to the American note has been delivered to Ambassador Gerard and published by the government. It is a stalepaper of greatest moment—simply classical in its conciliatory tone and in the firmness with which the German standpoint is maintained. As was to be expected, the German government does not yield one iota. Once more, it reviews the whole situation as developed from the beginning by British methods of entirely disregarding all international laws, of gradually degrading the conduct of the war, by trying, in utter disrespect of the laws of nations and of humanity, to starve a people of seventy millions. Until now the German government had strictly adhered to all obligations imposed upon civilized nations by international treaties as well as by humanitarian considerations. This she could do no longer. She had given ample warning to neutral powers that a certain territory was to be considered as war territory which it would be dangerous for neutral ships to enter. After enumerating all measures of the British government, taken in perfect disregard of the rights and of the interests of neutrals, the German government proposes to the American government to convey their ships by American warships which would easily distinguish them from English vessels flying the American flag so that there would be no danger from German submarine boats. If this proposition should be adopted by the U. S. government, all further trouble could be avoided. I hear privately that still another

proposition has been made unofficially, to bridge over the existing difficulties and to let American ships pass free of danger, which might prove satisfactory to all concerned. But undoubtedly the note is bound to make a profound impression in every quarter of the globe where some sense of fairness and justice is left. I hope President Wilson will appreciate it.

The appeal made by German army surgeons sentenced in Paris to several months of imprisonment for alleged pillaging, to a higher court has been successful. So there is still justice obtainable in France. It would have been a fearful shame, an irretrievable wrong if those men who were doing their duty in nursing the wounded enemy and using for this purpose some commandeered linen and wine, had been sent to prison. The execution of German farmers in Morocco for helping native people before the war, is a bad enough spot on the French shield of honor. I have no doubt that the American Ambassador in Paris has brought strong pressure to bear on the French government to bring about the acquittal of the men.

Sir Roger Casement has submitted his material, the original correspondence of his man servant Adler Christensen with the British minister in Christiania etc., to the German Foreign Office which states publicly that the proof is absolutely convincing. It is now to be submitted to the Norwegian government.

Italy has made some friendly representations in the form of "observations" to the German government in regard to the declaration of war territory and the treatment of neutral shipping. It is believed that the answer will be that made to the United States.

February 18th, 1915.

This is the great day of which Germans have dreamed for a long time, the beginning of the ultimate and decisive struggle against British supremacy at sea. I for one do not believe that we shall hear of very startling events during the next few days. The fixing of the 18th day of February might be without special significance, because some date had to be fixed as a definite warning for neutral ships that there was danger ahead. But if Britishers or others believe that the announcement of a modified blockade was simply a German bluff, they are sadly mistaken. I know my German friends too well to believe that they were not prepared to "make good". To the contrary, everything indicates that they are in dead earnest and that the real fight is only beginning as far as England is concerned. They have a powerful weapon in their hand, everything is prepared with genuine teutonic scientific thoroughness, and the world is holding its breath waiting for developments.

Some reports from the new "war territory" show from where the wind is blowing. In the British channel two steamers, an English and a French one, have been sunk, either by running upon mines or by German torpedoes. And the French cable Brest-New York is said to have been broken. If it is true that both cables are out of order then it can be no mere accident but must have been caused by German submarine boats.

The American Embassy announces to the general and commercial public that a number of American steamers, mostly belonging to the Southern Pacific Co., have arrived or will arrive within a short time, in Bremen and Rotterdam with cotton on board. These steamers are ready to take on board any consignments for the United States, Central and South America. It is desirable that they have not to go home with ballast, but with a full cargo of merchant goods. Here is a good opportunity for German producers to renew old ante war connections on the American continents.

The evening papers bring the joyful news that Hindenburg's victory in East Prussia is far more complete than was surmised in the beginning. The tenth Russian army consisting of at least eleven divisions of infantry and several divisions of cavalry with the accompanying artillery has been practically annihilated, only scattered remnants escaping. Until now 64,000 prisoners have been brought in, 71 field pieces, over 100 machine guns, 150 ammunition wagons, three large trains with army rations and other war material has been captured. The Emperor telegraphed home that he was present at the decisive moment of the battle near Lyck and that old and young troops alike covered themselves with glory. He points out that especially one army corps consisting of fifty percent of "Landsturm," 25 percent of young volunteers and 25 percent of regular troops attacked the Russians in strongly fortified positions working their way through breast deep snow and throwing the Russians out of their trenches with fixed bayonets singing the "Wacht am Rhein" and "Deutschland, Deutschland!". The school children will have another holiday tomorrow and special service will be held in all churches next Sunday by order of the Emperor.

A touching incident is reported from this "nine days winter battle in Mazur" as it will be known officially, reminding the American reader vividly of the seven days battle in the Wilderness of the civil war. On the 14th day of February the 11th division of territorials and parts of the 2nd division of the regulars had, in the presence of the Emperor,

stormed the small town of Lyck which was one of the main strongholds of the Russians. The victorious troops, their units badly mixed up, had reached the central market place of the town watching bands of Russian prisoners, almost more numerous than themselves, when all of a sudden the Emperor appeared in their midst. The terribly exhausted soldiers, covered with blood and dirt, in torn uniforms, surrounded their "war lord" hurrahing him, crying with excitement while he addressed some officers. In a jiffy the windows of the badly demolished houses surrounding the market, trees and other elevations were occupied by soldiers and without any order or hint this whole crowd chanted from the bottom of their hearts the German national hymn with which they had stormed the enemy's position a short while ago: "Deutschland, Deutschland über Alles!", the Emperor listening with bare head and shining eyes! What a picture worthy of the brush of a Menzel! Just at this moment the 2nd grenadiers, a crack regiment of sturdy Pomeranians, entered the town with flying colors pierced by the enemies bullets, the band playing. The Emperor rode to their head, ordered them and the other troops to place themselves in an open square and addressed them, thanking them all for their immortal bravery. Truly, such an army with such leadership is unconquerable. What faces the thousands of Russian soldiers looking upon this singular spectacle must have made!

February 19th, 1915.

The Germans have lost two Zeppelin airships belonging to the navy. In a severe gale they were driven towards the coast of Jütland and compelled to land. Both were destroyed by the storm but most of the crew of both are saved. This loss is lamentable but not irretrievable. As the Zeppelin works in Friedrichshafen are working day and night turning out new airships, the German army and navy must be in possession of a very large number of them.

Sir Edward Grey's answer to America is published. As was to be expected, England sticks to her decision that merchant ships of a belligerent country are entitled to fly a neutral flag if they can escape therewith seizure by a hostile warship. Typically English is the argument that such practice must be allowed as the British shipping act of 1854 provides that ships of other belligerent countries flying the neutral British flag for such purposes, were not subject to punishment. Because they intended to do such things from the beginning and provided for it in their legislation, the other powers have no right to be of a different opinion! This is British impudence and pretension in "Reinkultur" as the Germans say. I wonder whether President Wilson and his eminent secretary of state Bryan, the English father-in-law as he is being styled already, will feel the sting of the British reply. The second part of the note deals with the case of the "Wilhelmina" and repeats the assertion that the grain sent to Germany from America was, under present conditions, destined to feed the German army and that no guarantee could be given preventing its use for army purposes. This way of arguing is simply childish. The paragraph of the Hague convention upon which the shippers of the steamer in question base their action, does not say that the grain shipped to a belligerent country must under no circumstances be used for army purposes, but states explicitly that the cargo must be addressed bona fide to a private firm and not directly to any government agency. If the desired guarantee should be given, which would be easy, a like quantity of grain otherwise destined for the use of civilians would become available for military purposes if necessary. So this argument is only another pretext to hold the cargo of the steamer, only thinly veiling the burning desire of the English to cut off all supply of food stuffs for a people of seventy million inhabitants.

February 20th, 1915.

Little Holland has addressed a rather sharp note to the English government protesting against the misuse of the Dutch flag by British ships, calling attention to the fact that such practice as authorized and advised by the British government was in no way sanctioned by international custom or law. The note points out, also, that the non-punishment of hostile ships by English courts, for flying the English neutral flag in similar cases does not establish a binding precedent for other nations. It might be a good suggestion for President Wilson and secretary Bryan to copy Holland's note of reply if they are not able to produce so much dignity themselves.

Dutch papers contain announcements by the British government setting prices for merchant ships and fishing vessels for the sinking or destroying of German submarine boats. If these ships are painted in neutral colors or flying neutral flags—what have the German submarine boats to protect themselves, but to sink without warning every ship which is not at once distinguishable from a hostile vessel?

It is even reported that the British themselves are planning to sink some neutral ships, especially American ones, by torpedoes and then to assert that the Germans did it

because only German Huns and barbarians were able of such inhuman warfare. It is by no means improbable that these stories are true. The British have never in their history shrunk from doing the most dastardly acts, as has been proved recently by Sir Roger Casements experiences.

The German government, in an official publication, admonishes the public press not to discuss prematurely the aims to be pursued at the conclusion of peace. Now was the time to think of nothing else but to gain the victory and to avoid fruitless discussions of things to be considered later on. If the time was ripe, full discussion of the future plans of Germany from all sides would be welcome to the government. Quite sensible!

The Imperial Chancellor has left Berlin for a visit to his Austrian colleague Baron Burian at Austrian headquarters in Galicia. I wonder what they will hatch out there.

February 21st, 1915.

We hear from Swedish sources that a British transport with 2000 soldiers aboard has been sunk by a German submarine boat between Dover and Calais. If confirmed, this would be a great success for the German army and greatly influence enlistment in England. But the poor devils sent to the bottom of the sea and drowned like so many rats!

That the announcement of the modified blockade of Great Britain and Ireland is already bearing fruit is reported from all sides. Many shipping lines in Denmark, Holland, Sweden and Norway have entirely or partly stopped their service, the sailors refusing, in many cases, to run the risk of being blown up by German mines. The British government has promised all sailors of the merchant marine that they or their families will be treated as if they belonged to the navy in case of their being hurt or killed in the exercise of their profession. The purpose is, of course, to encourage the men to keep up sea traffic.

American financial circles complain bitterly of the stagnation of business on account of the war. Well, they could do a great deal towards the ending of the war by withholding financial and other support from the allies.

Even English and French papers express great fears of the future fate of China which is evidently threatened by Japan with complete suppression. I for one believe that in the long run little Japan will be unable to swallow and digest this immense chunk. But what will the United States government say? I am still waiting to hear from across the Atlantic what steps are to be taken to protect China and the open door in Eastern Asia. Will China be really left entirely to the mercy of the Japs?

A very valuable statement has been published by the American Embassy in London. It states that all investigations, all hearings of Belgian refugees have utterly failed to establish one single case of cruelty committed by German soldiers in Belgium. This testimony is of so much greater weight as it has been taken down by agents of the British government who state that in most cases the Belgian refugees made wild statements without being able to give any substantial evidence and that they were unalterably hysterical persons who had endured many hard experiences but only such as were unavoidably connected with the ordinary horrors of war. Will the New York papers print this vindication of the "German Huns?" I doubt it.

## Where to buy the Continental Times. Germany.

- Bremen:** Johs. Storm, am Wall. Otto Melcher, Hutfutterstrasse. Gustav Winter, am Wall. Rühle & Schlenker, Domsheide. Will & Newig, Schüsselkorb.
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**Copenhagen:** Copenhagener Handelsbank, A.-G. Viggo Adler, 23, Strand Boulevard. Any difficulty in obtaining the paper should be notified to the head office at Augsburgstrasse 38 Berlin W. 50.



# THE CONTINENTAL TIMES

## Supplement

### An Orgy of Cant. Aleister Crowley, the British poet, calls a spade a spade.

Aleister Crowley, the well known English reformer has sent out to the educated classes in England a circular letter, in which he tells his countrymen a few very unpleasant facts, tearing from their minds the veil of hypocrisy through which they hitherto have looked at everything connected with the war. This is what Mr. Crowley says:

"Oh wad some power the giftie gie us

To see ourselves as ithers see us!"—Burns.

We are in for one of our periodical orgies of Cant. Right (and God, of course, thank God!) struggles gallantly in its tiny way against Armed Might, Tyranny, Barbarism; the Allies pit their puny force against the hordes of Huns. Parsons preach on David and Goliath, publicists invoke Jack the Giant-Killer. The odds are always ten to one. Fortunately, one Englishman is a match for 18 1-3 Germans, as statistics prove.

Englishmen, even educated Englishmen, even travelled Englishmen, manage to hypnotize themselves into believing this.

In point of fact, gallant little Germany is against a world in arms. Austria has been torn for many years by internal divisions; only a part of her population is of German stock. But against Germany and this one friend are arrayed Russia, France, England, Serbia, Montenegro and Japan; and every one of these nations is throwing its whole diplomatic weight into the task of getting Roumania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Holland, Denmark and the United States of America to join in. We are only about 6 to 1 at present, and feel insecure.

My own view is simpler. We have waited for a long while to smash Germany and steal her goods. We have taken a first-class opportunity, and we shall never regret it.

II

We thank God that we are not as other men. There are no stained glass windows bright enough for us. Our haloes are top heavy.

We have quite forgotten that the Belgian is the most cruel, mean, and cowardly cur in Europe, that we have demonstrated till all was blue against him as assassin, torturer, mutilator, and cannibal. We have dined in our thousands to acclaim his disgrace. We heard of nothing but "Red Rubber," of niggers with hands, and feet, and indeed all that was off-choppable, off-chopped; of rape, robbery, murder, anthropophagy, and so on, until even our sanest etymologists began to derive Belgium from Belfai and Belphegor and other leading Lucifuges of the hierarchy of the Pit. King Cléopole, who was really a foolish kindly old gentleman with a taste in petticoats, the spit of a hundred vieux marcheurs in any Pall Mall Club, was compared to all the Roman Emperors from Caligula and Nero to Justinian and Diocletian. And now it is Gallant Little Belgium, and Les Braves Belges, and enough about heroes and martyrs to make any decent man vomit!

Anything the Belgians may have got they asked for. *Flagellum qui meruit ferat!*

III

We thank God that we are not as other men. Humph! If the French are being beaten, they have only themselves to blame. Does one expect a Leonidas from France?

Outside the sacred Mount of Parnassus, where dwell Rodin, and Anatole France, and a few more, what names does one know but names of scandal? Eiffel, and Reinach, and Dreyfus, and Henry, and du Paty de Clam, and de Lesseps, and Meyer, and Mme. Humbert, and Mme. Steinheil, and Mme. Caillaux. Since 1870 the history of France is a history of mean and mostly unintelligible squabble, fringed with Jesuitry and pseudo-Mason intrigue, a vile, an obscurer money-grubbery than even that of Haussmann and the Second Empire. In all the labyrinth of French group-politics there is a name unsmirched by what in any other country would be felony?

What sort of an army is it whose officers conspire wholesale against the state and have to be bought over by a Bourse-ridden republic, bribe beating bribe? What sort of a republic whose chief magistrate can be smacked publicly in the face at a race-course and not dare to retaliate, the pretenders to whose throne can allow their conspirators to culminate and at the last moment fear to show themselves, so that all their followers are thrown into prison—when a single bold push would have set them on the throne?

Calmette, the Bel-ami journalist, who by trickery and treason makes himself the greatest power in French journalism, threatens to expose the master-blackmailer, to unmask the "impregnable" frontier fortresses that are still armed with the guns of 1872; he is murdered by a woman who in England would be considered as a doubtful starter in any concourse of moderately respectable demi-mondaines—and a jury is found to declare that she did not commit the act to which she openly confesses!

England has spent about nine centuries in hating and despising France, in crying out on her for atheism and immorality and all the rest of it; Edward the Seventh, one night upon Montmartre, swears the French are jolly good sportish, bigod, and lo! the Angel of the Entente Cordiale, Mimi Tete-Beche is Sainte-Genevieve, and Jésus-la-Caille becomes the Saviour of Protestant England.

Is it a nation in which abortion has become a national danger that will freely give her sons to the Republic?

If so, only because the French people is not corrupted, even by their politicians.

I love the French—I will not yield precedence to Edward VII, though I prefer Montparnasse to Montmartre, and pay for my own dinner at Lapérouse's where he accepted £20,000 to dine at the Café Anglais—and I want to see them victorious and prosperous. But I shall not mistake France for Sparta.

IV

As to Russia, we have had nothing but whole-hearted abuse since 1850. Even their ridiculous fear of having their children stolen by Jews for the purposes of ritual murder—as they most fixedly believe—has been represented as religious bigotry, when it is at the worst but peasant ignorance like the belief in witchcraft.

We have received and fêted the would-be assassins of their Tsar; we have imagined Red Sunday in St. Petersburg, and fulminated against pogroms, and preached against vodka and brutal Cossacks till anyone who has ever been to Russia wants to go away quietly and die; and the next thing is that we hold up our railways and smuggle 150,000 of the brutal Cossacks aforesaid to fling them on the flank of the German armies in Normandy and Picardy. Well, no! it was only a Secret Service lie. But how dearly we all wished, it true!

Have we not wept and yelled over Poland? And has not the Tsar promised autonomy to Poland once and again, and tricked?

My own view of Russia is that it is the freest country in the world; but it is a little sudden for our Nonconformists who have denounced her as a tyrant for the last sixty years, to hail her thus incontinently as the Champion of European Liberty.

V

It is disgusting to have to foul clean paper with the name of Serbia.

These swineherds who murdered and mutilated their own king and queen; whose manners make their own pigs genteel; whose assassins who officially plot and execute the dastard murder of the Crown Prince of a nation with whom they are at peace; these ruffians so foul that even cynical England hesitates to send a minister to their court of murderers—these be thy gods today, O England!

"Heroic little Serbia!"

VI

I have not a word to say against the Montenegrians. They are decent, honest, cutthroats.

VII

And now we come to the treacherous monkeys of Japan, the thieves and pirates of the East. Who makes the shoddy imitations of European and American machinery, forges the names of famous firms, sticks to no meanness to steal trade? Who, under cover of alliance with England, fostered in China a boycott of all English goods?

Only yesterday Japan was at the throat of Russia—or at least trod heavily on one big toe. To-day in Tokio they sing the Russian national anthem, and cheer the ambassador whenever he appears.

Why not? of course. It is natural, it is human; it is all in order. But it is fickleness and treachery; it is hypocrisy and humbug. Diplomacy is of necessity all this; but at least let us mitigate the crime by confession!

Human nature is never so bad when it is not shackled by the morality of emasculate idealists.

Does any person who knows the Far East believe even in an opium dream that Japan had any quarrel with Germany, or any care for her alliance with England? Kiao-Chau was an easy enough prey; well, then, snatch it, and chance the wrath of schoolmarm America and the egregious Wilson. But for God's sake, and by the navel of Daibutsu, and the twelve banners of the twelve sects of Buddha, let us spew out the twaddle about honor, and justice, and oppressed China, and the sanctity of alliance!

VIII

And England! England the Home of Liberty, the Refuge of the Oppressed, the Star of Hope of the Little Nations. I suppose that any other nation about whom they sang "They're hanging men and women too—For wearing of the green" would suppress the song by yet more hanging. The English are cynical enough to sing it themselves.

The English are ever on the look-out for atrocities. Bulgarian atrocities, Armenian atrocities, Tripolitan atrocities, Congo atro-

cities, and now German atrocities. One notices that the atrocity of the atrocitators varies with their political objectionability.

The parable of the mote and the beam was made for England, surely.

German atheism! from the compatriots of Shelley, Thomson, Bradlaugh, Morley, and John Burns.

German sensuality! from the fellow-citizens of Swinburne, Rossetti, Keats, and a dozen others.

German blasphemy! when the Kaiser invokes the God of Battles. As if the success of British arms were not prayed for daily in the churches, the name of God invoked in the addresses to the soldiers, and the very motto of England. Dieu et mon droit! It is true the Kaiser was first to make so emphatic an insistence that God was his ally; it seems that England has the old literary grievance against those *qui ante nos nostra dixerunt!*

Indeed *savetia!*

German militarism! A strange rebuke from a nation whose saner citizens at this hour are cursing themselves that they did not have conscription twenty years ago, from a nation which has by a sham Insurance Act riveted heavier fetters on their slave-class than were ever ball and chain.

And it is England that can produce a firm of piano manufacturers to start a boycott of German pianos—their own pianos being all German but the cases!—and a boycott of German music. And it is England that can show a composer who writes to the papers that he will now "try harder than he ever tried before" to beat Bach and Beethoven and Brahms and Strauss and Wagner! In the meantime he will refrain from the wicked and unpatriotic luxury of Vienna steak! And since Kant thought two and two made four, for all true Englishmen they must make five in future.

Have Englishmen forgotten their own Royal family?

"The very dogs in England's court  
They bark and howl in German."

Edward VII spoke English with an accent; and at the first hour of war with Germany we found the first Lord of the Admiralty a German Prince!

Until this year England has never been at war with Germany in the course of history since the Conquest. Our very speech, half English, betrayeth us.

All this is finished. The German is a Hun, and a Vandal, and a monster, and a woman torturer, and a child-murderer, and runs away in his millions at the sight of a Territorial from Hoxton. And the British Army has won victory after victory against enormous odds, some sixtyfold, and some eightyfold, and some a hundredfold, and has retreated (for strategic purposes, luring the hosts of the Kaiser to their doom) nearly as fast as a frightened man can run, and exactly as fast as a victorious host can pursue them.

It is not a quarter of a million against 60,000 as it was in the Boer war. And even then the British were so handsomely beaten that in a few years they were obliged to hand back the government to the "defeated" enemy, who now treats the "rooinek" a great deal worse than ever Kruger did. But he professes "loyalty" whenever it suits him, and we all boast of pacified and united South Africa, and shoot down British miners and deport their leaders, in flat violation of their own constitution. In short, all parties have acted throughout with that good sense which in themselves they call Truth and Righteousness, and in other cynical immorality.

IX

But more shameful and silly than all is our attitude to the diplomatic situation. Even papers normally sane, are found perverting truth, and distorting facts, and misrepresenting motives, and misinterpreting plain words, in a way that would bring a blush to the cheek of a nonconformist. The common hack newspapers call the flight of the British from Mons to Paris "the greatest military feat of modern times," and one feels that Xenophon must be shivering in the Elysian Fields (while President Poincaré finds the Champs Elysées too hot for him) at the news of how the Retreat of the Ten Thousand has been eclipsed. But this sort of lie is common to every country.

But the most fair-minded of critics can hardly cavil at their complaint that in order to swamp their brave little army the world has been ransacked of every tribe, race, kingdom, principality and power. *Germania delenda est*, and the end justifies the means.

Algerians, not only of Arab, but of negro and even negro stock, have been hurled into the line; India has gushed out a venomous river of black troops—the desperate Ghoorka, whose kukri is thrust upward through the bowels, the Pathan, whose very women scavenge the battlefield to rob, murder, and foully mutilate the dead, the fierce Sikh, the lithe Panjabi, the

Bengali even, whose maximum of military achievement is The Black Hole of Calcutta!

X

Against the Boers the English did not dare employ savage troops. Europe would have risen in arms at the abomination.

To-day we do it, because all armed Europe is already either for us or against us. And, with all that, we use the Japanese! Can we complain if the German papers say that the Kaiser is fighting for culture, for civilization, when the flower of the allied troops are black, brown, and yellow "heathens," the very folks whom we have stopped from hook-swinging, suttee, child-murder, human sacrifice and cannibal feast? From Senegambia, Morocco, the Soudan, Afghanistan, every wild band of robber clans, come fighting men to slay the compatriots of Kant, Hegel, Goethe, Schiller, Heine, Beethoven, Wagner, Mozart, Dürer, Helmholtz, Hertz, Haackel, and a million others perhaps obscure, no less noble, men of the Fatherland of music, of philosophy, of science and of medicine, the land where education is a reality and not a farce, the land of Luther and Melancthon, the land whose life blood washed out the Ecclesiastical tyranny of the Dark Ages. The Huns!

Indignation has led me from the point of my paragraph. It was my purpose to expose the infamous pretence—which, however, is not too insane to dupe even clean sighted Englishmen in their hysteric hour—the pretence that the Kaiser is a "mad dog," a homicidal maniac, a man like Nebuchadnezzar in the Hebrew fable, or like Attila the Scourge of God, or Tamerlane.

It is a lie. The Kaiser has a ways been and is to-day, a man of peace. He has indeed lived up to the maxim *Si vis pacem, para bellum* and, loaded with the legacy of hate which the impolitic annexation of Alsace-Lorraine had thrust upon his shoulders, he could do no less without offering the breast of Germany to the ravisher. A lamb to the slaughter, indeed, with La Revanche in every mouth! What would he do, with men yet alive who remembered Jena, and the ceaseless raids and ravages of Bonaparte?

But in a hundred crises he kept his head; he kept the peace. He had plenty of chances to smash France forever; he did not take them. An ambitious prince might have put a relative on the throne of Louis XIV while France was torn by the Boulanger affair, the Panama scandal, the Dreyfus horror, when Diogenes might have gone through France with a modern search light for his lantern without finding a single man who was not a traitor to his country, or at least to the Republic and the most trustworthy man of affairs was he who could be trusted to put the "double-cross" on every one. The Kaiser never stirred.

It would have been easy to destroy the Russian menace at the time when Japan was straining the sinews of the Tartar giant, or when the Moscow Revolution showed that the Tsar could not trust his own soldiers, and the Imperial Guard, hastily summoned from St. Petersburg, shut up the garrison of Moscow in the Kremlin, trained their own guns upon them, and disarmed them. The Kaiser did nothing.

And then came the Triple Entente.

Germany was held like a deer in a lion's jaws. Austria, her only friend, was being ruined by insidious politics even more surely than by open attacks. Barred in the Adriatic, barred in the Baltic, the Teuton had but one small strip of reasonably open coast. That the Kaiser made that coast the greatest naval base in the world was held to be a "menace."

Surely the Russo-Japanese war and the Boer war showed plainly—if any fool there were who could not see it *a priori*—that the greatest, widest, best, and only impregnable military base is the sea. To-day we can bring Russian troops from Vladivostok or Archangel and land them at Ostend, a million at a time, and Germany must be well-served indeed by spies if she knows of the operation in time to guard against it. Such a power is the supreme strategic advantage. Is it then so treacherous and aggressive if Germany, threatened by an alliance (hypocritically described as an entente) of powers outumbering her by six to one, sought to keep open a path to raid that universal base of operations? The English are the least military and the most warlike of all peoples, said someone; the converse is truer still of Germany.

Pan-Germanism itself, intrinsically bad as it is if regarded from the standpoint of the Universe, has its apology. One becomes tired of being an irremovable obstacle; one thinks it may be less strain on the nerves if one takes one's turn at being an irresistible force. "Why does a goalkeeper look old sooner than a centre forward?"

Even the stolid Teuton nature must tire of the perpetual squeeze of Russia, the spurs of the French chancicler struck ever and anon in his hide.

And since the Entente the ordeal of the Kaiser has been Promethean. Insult after insult he has had to swallow; injury upon injury he has had to endure. The Kiao-Chau adventure, harmless and rational, was balked, then sterilized, then counterpoised. The colonies did not prosper. England built like a maniac against his navy; Churchill deliberately pulled his nose by the impudent proposal for limitation of armaments.

Agadir was a fresh humiliation; for a few acres of uninhabitable jungle on the Congo he had to surrender all interest in Morocco, a country he had nursed for years.

It is still a diplomatic secret, and I must not betray it. But who financed Italy in her Tripolitan adventure, and why?

The last straw was the Balkan war. Blotted was his one hope of escape to the East; his ewe-lamb, Turkey, was torn to pieces before his eyes, and he could not stir a finger to prevent it. Austria still blocked in the Adriatic, Italy alienated from the Triple Alliance, the Slav expanding everywhere, Constantinople itself threatened, Roumania (even) turning toward Russia, he must have felt like a victim of that maiden of armor and spears that once executed justice on the weak.

And all this had been accomplished by England without sword drawn or cannon fired.

Here then stood Wilhelm, dauntless but defeated. His diplomacy had failed; his one ally was handicapped by domestic unrest; he was isolated in Europe; England was increasing her navy at a pace which he could never beat; France, with her three years' law, was proposing to increase her army by 50 per cent. at a stroke; Russia was turning the flank, pushing on through the Balkans subtly and surely.

And the Kaiser answered: I am the servant of God; I stand for peace. And the Triple Entente gathered closer and chuckled: Ah! he dare not fight. Let us tighten the garrote!

So Serbia plots and executes the crime of Sarajewo, Austria, its aged Emperor smitten yet again and most foully, demands imperatively the disclosure of the accomplices of the assassins. Serbia replies in terms of evasion, evasion impudently cynical. Austria stirs. Russia—and there is no pretence possible, the murder of the Archduke was either instigated by Pan-Slavism or was a threat equally to the Tsar as to any other ruler—replies by mobilizing. Before Austria has moved a man or a gun, Russia mobilizes.

And what was the position of the German Emperor? He must strike now or never.

He looked about him. The weakness of the British Government and its supposed preoccupation with the Ulster folly and the suffragettes encouraged him to hope. He saw France, mere rottenness, its bandages torn off by the pistol-shot of Mme. Caillaux. All things conspired; he would make one final effort for peace by threatening Russia. And then he suddenly knew that it was no good. Nothing was any good; nothing would ever be any good again. Sir Edward Grey spoke for peace, spoke of neutrality, in the House of Commons at a moment when thousands of British troops were already on their way to Belgium, and the fleet, concentrated and ready for action, already held the North Sea.

France withdrew her troops from the frontier "so as to avoid any possibility of incidents which might be mistaken for aggression," while her Algerian and Senegambian troops were on the water, half-way to Marseilles.

He knew that this time there was no hope of peace. Abdication itself would hardly have saved Germany from a long-prepared, carefully-planned war, a war whose avowed object, an object in the mouth of every man in the street, was the destruction of Austria, the dismemberment of Germany. They had got him.

Even a worm will turn; even a Quaker will fight if he is cornered.

Wilhelm struck.

I write in English for those English who count, and this is the proper way to view the matter. Germany is a rich prize. We can capture German trade, German manufactures, German shipping, German colonies. We can exact an indemnity sufficient to cripple Germany for a dozen generations. We can split Germany into six kingdoms or republics, and weaken her beyond repair forever. We can double-cross Russia by insisting on the creation of a new Poland. We can destroy the German fleet, and economize on dreadnoughts. We can force our proletariat to accept conscription and stave off the social revolution. We can drown the Irish question in Lethe; we can fight a general election on the war, and keep the present gang of politicians in office.

And, best of all! we can achieve all this in the name of Honor, and the Sanctity of Treaties, and the Cause of the Democracies, and we can ask the blessing of God upon our arms in the name of Liberty, and Civilization, and Prosperity, and Progress.



## Exotic Soldiers.

Sven Hedin, the famous Explorer tells about the Hindoo Troops. Can't Stand Cold.

It's a crime to import those poor Indians into Europe in Winter.

The following is an extract from the just published book by Sven Hedin the well known Swedish explorer:—

I should have very much liked to see how the Hindoos were faring in Artois and Flanders during the foggy autumn season.

But the Indian prisoners of the citadel of Lille had been transferred to the East to make room for new troops. I myself have experienced how serious were the consequences following transplanting of Hindoos into a colder climate. On my last trip to Tibet I had with me two Radjputs from Kashmir. When we got into the mountains, they were nearly frozen and my Caravan leader Muhamed Isa declared they were as useless as young puppies. Then I had to send them back. A similar experience I had with my Indian cook, beyond the confines of India he was absolutely worthless. In Tibet the people live on meat, in India on vegetables. How then could they have endured the sudden changes of both climate and diet.

### To freeze in the Frenches.

Now the Press informs us that the English have organized a regular import of Indians into Europe. I could hardly believe the report, but at the front was assured of its correctness. "How do you treat the Indian soldiers?" I once asked some officers. "We arrest them" said one of them, and another added: It is hardly necessary, they'll soon freeze in the trenches." When I admit my own stupidity in believing that Indians could be of use in Tibet, I may well say that Viscount Curzon has been seven times more foolish when he expected to see "Indian Lancers clear the streets of Berlin & little brown Goorkas make themselves comfortable in the Park of Sanssouci." However, this importation is more than mere stupidity—it is a crime!

For nearly 150 years Great Britain has fulfilled her mission of Guardianship over India; any other nation could scarcely have succeeded in this gigantic task. Indian troops have fought honorably against their neighbors and helped towards maintaining order among 300 million peoples. But never, before this present "Liberal Government"—has it entered the mind of the British Government, to employ colored heathens against Christian Europeans! This is a crime against culture, civilization and Christianity. And if English missionaries approve of it, they are hypocrites and not apostles of the Gospel. Englishmen in India abhor very properly all marital unions with the natives, their children are treated like mules and are very often so called; they are neither horse nor donkey, they are halfcast. In Calcutta they have their own quarters and may not live in any other. But when there is a question of throwing down the "German barbarians", then indeed a union with the bronze-colored Hindoos is good enough for the Englishmen!

### Yes or no.

Is it a sign of progress in culture and civilization worthy of the 20th century, to drag these guileless Hindoos thousands of miles across sea and land, to drive them into the firing lines on the battlefields of Europe against the first soldiers of the world. If this question can be answered with "Yes", I nevertheless hold to my opinion, that such action is the acme of cruelty! Cruelly, not against the German soldiers, for I knew their sentiments towards their Indian adversaries: Contempt and Pity! Besides, there is no headway as to the "Clearing of the streets of Berlin", nor are the lindentrees of Sanssouci as yet rustling above the war tribes from the Himalayas mountain sides.

What may these Indian troops think of their white masters! The future will tell. He who has seen something of the land of a thousand tales, who has ridden across the ridges of the Himalaya, who has dreamed in the moonlight at Taosh Mahal, who has seen the waters of Holy Ganges flowing silently in gray ringlets past the qays of Benares, who beheld in delight the caravan of Elephants passing under the Majotrees in Dekkan, in a word, he who loves India and admires the order and safety reigning there, will not need to exercise his mind inordinately to understand the thoughts of the returning Indian soldiers or the sentiments of their families and countrymen in the small huts on Himalayas hill-sides, as they are listening to the experiences of the home-comers. He can think of it only with horror, for he must tell himself that in the

name of civilization there has here been committed a crime against civilization and Christendom.

### Ever more men.

The question may be asked: Are these Indian troops really employed? Are not the white millions of Great Britain, Canada and Australia sufficient, to say nothing of the French, Belgians, Russians, Serbs, Montenegrins, Portuguese, Japanese, Turcos and Senegalese? It would seem so. In the "Times" of September 5th there appear the big headlines: "The need for more men." Even at that time more men were needed, to exterminate the "culture" of the "German Barbarians."

The cause and purpose of the war must be brought home to the English by special means, otherwise they will stay at home and play cricket.

And how is the education of the masses accomplished? The English Press enlightens us about it from day to day by a systematic series of lies. The fateful reality, which is slowly leading England towards a dire catastrophe, must necessarily be suppressed by a severe Press and Telegram-censorship. Of Hindenburg's victories the English people know absolutely nothing. The development of the German operations in Poland is by a slight of hand trick changed into a victorious advance of the Russians. The German Emperor is foully calumniated. The Germans are barbarians that must be crushed, and the civilized people of Serbia Senegambia and Portugal must participate in this worthy undertaking.

### Englands forgery.

England is conducting this war by forgery, and truth is as rare an article in the English Press as a falsehood is in the German Press.

But do the English really believe all that they read in their papers? Yes, absolutely and blindly. Of this I have been convinced through letters received from England. An appeal sent to me and signed by many learned men—among them several recipients of the Nobel Prize—closes with these words: "We deeply regret that under the calamitous influence of its military system and is unbridled dreams of conquest that State, which we have once held in honor, has now been unmasked as the common foe of Europe and of all peoples which honor the rights of nations. We must finish the war we have undertaken, to the end. For us and for Belgium it is a war of defense that must be fought through for the sake of liberty and peace."

The old story of the mote and the beam! Is Englands dominion of the Seas no military system? Can a more extensive militarism be imagined than that which extends its call for soldiers over five continents, and grasps even at the straw which Republican Portugal holds out and advertises in the papers for "more men needed?"

### Hypocrisy.

What was the Boer war? Was it perhaps a manifestation of the same humane "care for the small states" which causes England now to break a lance for Belgium's independence? It would be useless, if, now when it is too late, to philosophise on the development of the war in case England had refrained from any participation in it. So much is certain, however, that Belgium would have had to forego its sovereignty only until peace was declared. Nor would this war have become a world's war, one of the greatest and most tragic catastrophes that ever befell mankind. No nation has ever had a greater and more universal responsibility to bear than England, and we can only feel sorry for the men who shall have to bear this responsibility before the present and future generations.

### Indignant Italians.

Resentment felt by the arbitrary action of the English in Cairo.

Rome, Febr. 25th. Much indignation is expressed here at the high handed methods of the English in Cairo, where without the slightest ceremony or asking the leave of the Italian Consul the business houses of several Italians have been searched and their business books confiscated. The nationalists are speechless and everyone recognises the grossness of the insult.

## The War in Galicia.

Sir,—It was not without cause that I protested against the exaggerated importance given by the London Press to the reports of Russian victories. Much as I hope in the victory of the French and Belgian troops, with the help of the British, I am less happy at the Russian advance. In the words of one of the members of the Russian Duma, who was arrested and courtmartialled recently, "the lesser evil would be a Russian defeat". I am well content to leave it at that in so far as Russian Russia is concerned. The lie is thus given bluntly to the knaves who would have us believe that all is well in Russia to-day. All is not well. Political terrorism has not abated anywhere in the whole of the Empire. Our unfortunate and gallant Allies are the worst governed nation of the whole world.

Well, terrorism has begun in Galicia. And I am going to prove it with no other information than that given by the Petrograd correspondents of our leading newspapers. If their subeditors were not hopelessly overworked and ignorant mortals they would see to it that such information is withheld from us, as they know so well how to withhold it usually. To one who knows Galicia and the Ukraine, they afford damning evidence. I was much surprised, for instance, on December 5, to read a certain paragraph in the "Evening Standard." It had a heavy headline, "Horror in Galicia." The sub-editor, to be sure, must have thought the horrors were caused by the Huns, the "blonde beasts." He was mistaken. The Russians are in possession. By the way, the Muscovites contain in their ranks a much larger quantity of fair people than any army in the world. But to the information: "The Archbishop of Przemsyl has arrived here after enduring great sufferings.... Speaking of the situation in Galicia, his grace said that all his efforts to communicate with other Latin or Greco-Ruthenian Catholic bishops were vain, and the reports circulating about their condition most alarming."

With my knowledge of the Ruthenian question and of Galicia, these are my conclusions. The archbishop has gone to Rome to complain to the Pope about the conduct of the Russians in Eastern Galicia. The River San divides Galicia in two parts, Eastern Ukrainian, Western Polish. They are as two worlds. The Eastern part, which is the only one with which I am concerned, and, roughly speaking, the part which the Austrian Government, under Prussian pressure, was compelled to evacuate before the Russian invasion, is populated by Ukrainians, or Ruthenians. These are in a proportion of 97 per cent, Greco-Catholics in religion. The Archbishop of Lemberg, Mgr. Count Sheptitzkyj, is the Metropolitan. He belongs to a family older than that of the Habsburgs, and, if wealthy, at least as charitable and open-handed as rich. He is not unknown in this country and has been in Canada and the States to study the conditions of his folk who have emigrated there. Knowing the misery and the sufferings of the Ukrainians of Galicia, he did his best to group them together and took full advantage of the Nationalist revival to effect that purpose. No Radical was ever too radical for him. Ten years ago the Russian Government authorized all religions in the Empire, with one exception, i. e., the Greco-Catholic Church, the only Church which it had any cause to fear. When the Russian armies approached Lemberg the Archbishop was urged to leave, but he refused. He was arrested and taken to Kiev. Scores of priests and nationalist peasants followed him. Russian "missionaries" were sent to Eastern Galicia. The new Governor was a certain Count Bobrinsky, a cousin of that most notorious and infamous Count Vladimir Bobrinsky, the corrupter of the Galician peasants, the arch-enemy of the Ukrainians of Russia, perhaps the politician who is the most entirely devoid of scruple in the whole of Russia, a descendant (by Catharine II) of one of the Orloffs. He was promptly appointed by his cousin to "supervise" relief.

That is exactly what he has been doing for several years. The Byzantine meaning of the word "relief" is well known. I repeat, all my information for recent facts is taken from the London Press. Over 400,000 Ruthenian refugees fled to Vienna and to Hungary. This shows how delighted the Ukrainians must be at the Russian advance. They inhabit also part of Hungary, around the Carpathian Passes. As a correspondent of the "Morning Post" informed us, "it was not the military that drove the Russians back, but the peasants, with scythes and re-

volvers." In this fashion did they welcome the Cossacks, who, by the way, burned every house and haystack as they withdrew, leaving the churches standing. Was that in derision?

The Bobrinsky clique used, before the war, which is their greatest achievement, to boast that there was no such thing as a Ruthenian language, that it was pure Russian. Yet I read in the "Star" of November 23 that "the Russians are organizing five educational centres in Eastern Galicia at which Galician professors will receive instruction in the Russian language". The truth is that a decently educated Russian who knows well another Slav language besides his own can rapidly learn Ukrainian, that any Slav who speaks two Slav languages can learn a third one in a few weeks. This fact does not make the Serbs, the Slovaks, or the Bulgarians members of the Russian (happy?) family. Why should the Ukrainians be thus chosen? It is, of course, because they number nearly forty million and occupy the richest territory of the Russian Empire.

Well, let the Russians burn houses, convert the Ukrainians, and teach their own language. Let them even, as they are doing, arm and enrol by force the population of the conquered territory. We have, for the present, no control over our apparently much-needed Allies. But when the peace negotiations are in progress, do we intend to allow Russia to annex to her Empire a population that is not of her own blood, even though it may be of the same blood as her 35,000,000 subject Ukrainians? The Bulgarian Government has, I understand, promised to support the Ukrainian claims. If we object to them, we shall be committing a crime, although very likely one of ignorance on our part. If the crime is perpetrated and we allow England's signature to be affixed to the treaty that enslaves another few million Ukrainians, hitherto comparatively free, then I honestly hope that hundreds of people in the British Empire will help and facilitate the revolution which will follow sooner or later in the whole of the Ukraine. In the meantime, is it too much to ask the United States Government and that of Canada to facilitate the emigration of those Ukrainians who prefer to seek freedom of conscience and of language as far afield as possible from the tentacles of the Muscovite octopus? George Raffalovich. ("New Age", London).

## Begging Recruits.

The football craze prevents. The realisation of the Million army.

London, February. It is time to eradicate the football cancer," says the "Pall Mall Gazette." It goes on to say that not a single man was recruited at London's principal football match which was attended by 15,000 spectators. A Colonel who lost a son at the front and was himself returning to the firing line, appeared at this game, says the paper, and pleaded with the men to enlist: "As a soldier I ask you," said the Colonel. "I say, come! Your country needs you." Then his words were drowned by shouts when the teams came on the field, continues the paper, which adds that in other parts of the country the same stolid refusal greeted the bands of speakers and recruiting officers.

### Again no recruits.

No recruits were obtained at Nottingham, where 7000 spectators attended a match, and no one was recruited at Brighton. "Is football such a passion that nothing on earth can stop it?" says the "Evening Standard." "Vigorous youths should be powerfully persuaded that this is not the time for the development of any passion save love of country. The "Westminster Gazette" says that there is only one way in which the Football Association can put itself right in the eyes of the public, and that is by discontinuing its program.

### Deep disgust.

New York Times, telling of recruiting in England, says: "Deep disgust is shown in the press over the failure of recruiting workers to arouse football players and spectators to the point of abandoning the sport and joining the colors. The agitation extends to practically every paper, and some severe action is likely, probably ending football for the season."

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## Fair Play Dead in the England of to-day.

Fair-Minded Englishmen and Americans in London Express Their Disgust.

An American, Harvey L. Fenwick, valiantly takes up his pen in defense of decency on the part of English blusterers in a late issue of *The New Age*, an English publication which, with the Manchester *Labour Leader* and the Scottish *Forward*, are the only papers in England not lost to all sense of shame, like the New York Royal press. In answering an attack upon himself, Mr. Fenwick, who describes himself an old friend of England, says:

Another illusion is also becoming more and more conspicuous under the mass- and ass-hypnotism of the war. It is the conviction that England has been ruthlessly attacked by Germany and finds expression in the Kitsonian formula—"We are engaged in a life and death struggle, etc." As one who believes that but for Sir Edward Grey's deliberate declaration of war on Germany, not only England, but the whole Western Continent might have been spared slaughter and ruin, I find this view beyond comprehension.

I am upbraided because, as a foreigner, I make a vicious attack upon those who—whatever their faults—are "doing all in their power to safeguard their own country." Has Mr. Kitson thought of the application of his words to his antagonists—the Germans?—an heroic people, muzzled and almost in a state of siege, yet fighting with one hand the entire British Empire, the French and their Colonies, and most of the Belgian army; and with the other the overwhelming, innumerable hordes of Russia? Yet, your Welles, Bennetts, Kiplings, not to mention the yellow scurrilous press, have done all they could to destroy our neutrality. "Come over and help us," has been their constant and valiant cry.

Another writer in *The New Age*, who says that his "name is one that has been somewhat distinguished in Scotland for centuries," expresses himself in a similar manner. He, too, has been the victim of abuse for standing up for fair play. He says:

### The Spirit of the Gutter Press.

My letters referred, firstly, to the vileness and mendacity of the Press campaign against Germany's method of conducting war; and secondly, to the sorrowful fact that fairness, chivalry, and sportsmanship are practically dead in the England of to-day. I also asked why it was worse for German soldiers to burn houses in Belgium and devastate the country than for English soldiers to do the same thing in South Africa. I utterly refuse to believe statements made upon no foundation; I should say that it is obvious that some of the atrocity stories were invented and written in the offices of the papers which printed them. The people who have taken the trouble personally to investigate the stories are unanimous in stating that they can find no authentic case. The latest to write on the point is Mr. James McKenzie in the "Common Cause."

I do not hate England, but I do hate the modern English spirit as interpreted by the English gutter press. I know that the spirit of chivalry and fairness survives in thousands of Englishmen, but they are of no more account than the righteous in Sodom. Many men whom I know personally have written to the Press, asking, as I have done, for decency and fair play; and they have either had their letters dropped into the waste-paper basket, or have been abused as I have been by the Harmsworth-Garvin-Hulton-Blumenfeld Press; which is determined at all costs to put down chivalry and common decency.

### A Disgrace to the English Nation.

Such a sentence as the following: "The great mass of women and men in Germany are half mad with eagerness to set fire to the streets of London, and to murder wholesale unarmed women, children, and men," is not only a disgrace to the Englishman who wrote it, and the English paper which published it; it disgraces England as a nation.

After the Press, comes a flight of authors and rhymesters, spitting out venom, and incidentally destroying any literary reputation which they may possess; and even the leaders of the people and the State are degrading the country by their curishness. The correspondent of an American paper recently accused the Press censor of deliberately erasing any news favorable to Germans, and inserting atrocity stories. I believe that the charge has not been contradicted. The Archbishop of York is having stones thrown at him because he has spoken of a personal friendship with the Kaiser in the past. Because we are at war with Germany it is improper to mention the head of the German nation without a curse or a foul name. I emphatically hate such things. In the long history of wars between England and Scotland the uppermost spirit was that of honor for the brave foe. That same spirit of chivalry animated not only England and Scotland, but France, Spain, and other countries. What in God's name, have we got in its place? True, the Harmsworths poisoned the source, but has England ever tried to eradicate that poison? On the contrary, practically the whole Press is now infected with it; and what was once poison has become the staff of life to the people. Manly war has now become wholesome murder; no nation which is helping to pile of

horror upon horror on the Continent of Europe has any right to call upon God—unless they call upon Odin, or Thor the thunderer. It is truly the greatest tragedy that the world has ever seen, but the degrading methods used by the English Press add to its horror. To pile the whole guilt upon the shoulders of one man, ignoring that of the whole of the nations now at war, is an infamy. Future history will distribute the guilt in its proper proportions, but that does not excuse any fair-minded man remaining silent in face of the Pharisaical attitude of Britain. The Government is using the same method of obtaining surface unity in the country as a steam-roller uses to smooth the top of a road; but a least British people have always refused to give up their birthright of freedom and free speech, and I trust they will continue to refuse.

And everything that the gutter-press of England prints is daily reprinted in the New York Times, Tribune, World, Herald and Sun.

### Quite Justified.

## England has No Cause for Wail.

Prof. Morgan of London University Justifies Germany's Attacks on British Isle.

All war is barbarous, and the attempts of English correspondents for American papers to make warfare as conducted by the Germans appear more barbarous than warfare by the Allies—if they were in the position of the Germans to inflict damage on the domain of their enemy—is most unfair. When the German cruiser squadron attacked the coast towns of England it was stated that Hartlepool, Scarborough and Whitby were undefended. Besides, it was asked, what practical result did the Germans achieve by what was described as a wanton destruction of life?

The following is taken from a letter to the New York Evening Post from its London correspondent:

"The world knows," says the Westminster Gazette, "that Scarborough is a defenceless and undefended watering-place." The world knows nothing of the kind. The international law on this subject was explained as long ago as August 17 in a Daily News article, entitled "What an Enemy May Do." The writer was Prof. J. H. Morgan of University College, London, one of the leading British authorities on such matters, who said:

### It all depends.

"Everything depends on what is meant by 'undefended.' I am afraid London would not be immune, nor would Weymouth, nor would Tynemouth. A place is not necessarily 'undefended' merely because it is not fortified. If it contains a depot of arms, a naval or military establishment, or even workshops or plant utilizable for military purposes its immunity is at an end."

"No charge of pro-German bias can be brought against the information supplied by Whitaker's Almanac for 1914. West Hartlepool appears there in a list of 'defended ports' protected by the Royal Garrison Artillery. Elsewhere in the army section is a list of 'cavalry depots.' In the United Kingdom there are six of these in all. The third of them, the depot for the North of England area, is—Scarborough! This so-called 'undefended watering-place' appears again in Whitaker as the headquarters of the Fifth Territorial, Battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment. There is the additional fact that Scarborough possesses a castle, with barracks and garrison, which has already figured in many a war, from the time of Harold Hardrada.

"The third of the bombarded towns, Whitby, is in a different category. It finds no mention in the army pages of the year-book. But reference to a plan of the town in a current Yorkshire guide-book shows a battery in front of the coastguard station. According to all the accounts, it was this coastguard station that was the target of the enemy's guns.

### Bunkum.

"The British public has for months been familiar with pictures of the ruin wrought by German shells in French or Belgian cities and villages. These, in the Daily News, have generally had some such title as 'In the Trail of the Huns,' and the accompanying letterpress has suggested that only an unprincipled foe could work such havoc. To-day there is a picture of precisely the same kind, but its subject happens to be a scene in East Prussia after the Russian invasion. The heading is 'War Carried Into the Enemy's Country,' and in a line underneath explains that "the picture shows part of a town that had to be bombarded in order to drive out the enemy." The basis of the distinction is evident. When non-combatants on your own side suffer, they are the victims of an unscrupulous and cruel enemy. When it is on the other side that calamity falls, it is an unhappy result of the inevitable necessities of war."

## Russian Ambitions.

By Professor Dr. Heinrich Kretschmayr.

(Vienna). Since the existence of Russia the basic foundation of her foreign politics has been the attempt of getting access to the sea. This desire has manifested itself even before the time of Peter the Great, although the latter was the first Czar to accomplish part of her desires. He annexed Asoff and Baku and thereby started the march of Russia towards the West. The battle of Poltava, in the year of 1709, opened the Baltic coast hitherto Swedish, from Viborg to Riga and at the same time with the destruction of Ukraina the barrier to the Black Sea. A generation later the Northern coast of the Black Sea became Russian property and her eyes now were looking towards the Danube, and another generation later during the Napoleonic reign Russia's forward march West continued like a gigantic overture to coming conquests by annexing Poland, leaving only small parts of this unhappy land in the hands of Prussia and Austria.

After the Napoleonic storm the march towards the South West was begun and the since much discussed "Oriental question" became a reality. At first little or no success attended the attempts of smothering Turkey, which had powerful allies in defending the European balance of power vested in the government at the "Golden Horn," and all Russian efforts of reaching the Mediterranean were blocked. On July 13, 1841 a treaty was concluded closing the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles to all foreign men of war, thereby shutting Russia out effectively. Fifteen years later the treaty concluding the Crimean war prevented Russia from even keeping an effective fleet in the Black Sea, and while this treaty was abrogated during the German-French war of 1870 the act closing the Dardanelles has been in force to the present day.

The unwieldy monarchy now began to grope her way towards the South East into Central Asia, always, however, finding Great Britain contesting her every step. Thrown out of the Black Sea by her defeat in the Crimean war Russia now advanced over the Caucasian mountains on to the border of Western China and from the Gulf of Persia to the estuary of the Indus, England always in her way with her fortifications of the Afghan border and in Tibet. All these years had ripened a new idea in Russia, that of Pan Slavism and this thought was the undercurrent of the bloody war of 1870 against Turkey.

The peace negotiations concluded at Berlin however again robbed Russia of the spoils of war, her intention having been to add the Balkan peninsula to her domain.

This peace treaty was a decided setback to Pan Slavism. Under the reign of Czar Alexander III it became the confirmed notion of the Slavish patriots that the way to the Dardanelles was leading over Berlin and Vienna, and therefore friendly relations with Germany's arch enemy, France, were eagerly sought, and brought about by the so called Cronstadt alliance.

During the last decade of the 19th Century the gigantic task of building the trans-Siberian railway was begun and connection of Europe with the Far East established. The Pacific terminal of the road was Vladivostok, which harbor however is situated too far north to be available to shipping at all seasons of the year, and therefore control of Chinese Manchuria, and the Liao Tang peninsula were acquired and Dalny and Port Arthur became the real Russian strongholds in the Pacific. With Corea looming up as the bone of contention, Russia paid dearly for her Asiatic aspirations by losing the war of 1904/1905 to Japan, the fine Greek hand of British politics being clearly visible in the result of the Portsmouth peace negotiations.

From now on Russian politics again turn to Southeastern Europe and Pan Slavism and the German Empire, which, with its Austro-Hungarian ally, had assumed a sort of economical protectorate over Turkey, became the obstacle. Russia incites the Balkan states against Turkey and later against one another and is the "spiritus rector" of all the riots and bloodsheds in the Balkan. Strengthened by her alliance with France and England she believes herself to be nearer her goal—the Dardanelles—than ever. The result of Russian machinations is the present war.

But Turkey is still holding her treasured possessions with a firm grip and with Poland and Ukraina seething with a rumbling of discontent, Russia's tactical position is not any too rosy at present, and even an opening to the Adriatic or the Mediterranean sea would not constitute the sum total of her hopes with the cerberus Great Britain fording it over the gateways of Aden and Gibraltar.

And what will come after this war? Will the future of Russia be in Europe or in far off Asia, where, her present ally and future arch-enemy Japan is waiting with her imperturbable smile?

Perhaps Russia's best friends are the statesmen, who are looking East for the solution of her internal problems. At least Russia will have to learn to bear her fate. The world is open to all and we will hope that this third act of the Oriental question will be its last.

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