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Every
Monday
Wednesday
Friday

The Continental Times

Special War Edition

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Friday

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1914. ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN GENEVA VIENNA ROME No. 1066. Vol. XX. No 74.

War News.

W.T.B. December 23rd. Attacks in the dunes at Lombartzyde and near Bixschote were easily checked. The English were thrown from their positions between Richebourg and the Canal d'Aire à la Bassée. Since December 20th 750 natives and English were made prisoners and 5 machine-guns and 4 mine-throwers captured. Attacks at Sillery, Rheims, Souain and Berthes were repulsed with great losses to the enemy. In the Bzura and Rawka-District (Poland) fighting continues.

W. T. B. December 24th. During the fighting at Bixschote on December 21st, 230 prisoners were made. Another 100 men fell into German hands between Souain and Perthes. German forces from East Prussia have taken the offensive again and defeated the Russians at Mława. This place was occupied and over 1000 Russian prisoners were made. Great losses were inflicted upon the Russians by bayonet-charges at the Bzura and Rawka rivers. Russian attacks were checked at the Pilica.

W. T. B. December 25th. Following up their success of December 20th. the Germans were able to take another section of the English positions at Festubert. A French company was destroyed at Chivy; 172 men being made prisoners. French attacks at Souain, Perthes, Verdun and Apremont were checked.

W.T.B. December 26th. An attack by French and English forces was repulsed at Nieupoort during the night of December 24th. The total result of the fighting at Festubert amounts to 19 officers and 819 natives and Englishmen made prisoners; 14 machine-guns, 12 mine-throwers, several searchlights and other war-materials were captured. The enemy left 3000 men killed on the battle-field; a truce was solicited by the English for the burial of the dead and was duly granted. German losses relatively small. Fighting occurred near Litons (200 prisoners made), in the Vosges, near Diedolshausen, Sennheim and Altkirch. A French aviator threw nine bombs over the village of Inor, regardless of the fact that there are only field-hospitals in that village, made recognizable also for airmen. As an answer to this act and to the recent bombardment of Freiburg, which is an open town outside the zone of operations, the Germans had bombs dropped upon several villages in the direction of Nancy.—Russian assaults against the German positions at Loetzen were checked and over 1000 Russians made prisoners. The German offensive at the Bzura continues; operations on the right bank of the Pilica River were successful.

W.T.B. December 27th. Several French attacks were easily checked. The fighting in Poland is progressing steadily.

Vienna, December 23rd. The Austrian operations in the Carpathians are taking a favourable course. In the Ung Valley, the Austrians pressed forward and made 300 prisoners. The Russian statement that 3000 Austrians were made prisoners and several Austrian guns and machine guns captured near the Subkow Pass, is untrue. The total Austrian losses were 2 officers and 305 men killed, wounded and missing; not a single gun or machine-gun has fallen into Russian hands.

Vienna, December 24th. In the Satorcz Valley several Russian attacks were repulsed and one Russian battalion was completely annihilated. The Austrians are advancing in the Ung Valley, where they made 650 Russian prisoners on the 21st. In a fight at the lower Nida on the 22nd, over 2000 prisoners were made. The total number of Russian prisoners taken between December 11th and December 20th, amount to 43,000, which brings the total number of prisoners of war in Austria-Hungary up to 200,000.

Vienna, December 25th. Fighting continues in the Carpathians, where the Austrians are slowly gaining ground. The Russians have retreated further also in Galicia; between Wislok and Biala, however, Russian attacks of great force were delivered during Christmas-night.

Vienna, December 26th. After four days heavy fighting the Austrians occupied the Uszok Pass in the Carpathians. The Russians continued their offensive in Galicia and re-occupied Krosno and Jaslo. Situation at the Dunajec and Nida rivers remains unchanged.

Vienna, December 27th. Situation in the Carpathians remains unchanged. No important events have taken place.

W. T. B. December 26th. A light British naval force appeared on December 25th in the Bay of Heligoland. Waterplanes started from the ships and threw bombs at several ships lying at anchor in the estuaries. No damage was done. Ger-

man airships and aeroplanes, pushing towards the enemy, damaged two British destroyers and one transport by bombs. Foggy weather prevented other fights.

Vienna December 23d. The French submarine *Curie* was destroyed by Austrian coast-batteries in the Adria. The Commander and 26 men were taken prisoners, the Second Officer is missing. The Austrian Submarine No. 12, Commander Lieutenant Lerch, torpedoed the French warship *Courbet* on December 21st in the straits of Otranto. The *Courbet* is very seriously damaged and had to be put into port.

The War of Islam.

Constantinople, December 26th. The Russian troops in the Caucasus have been thrown back into Russian territory all along the line, followed by the Turks, who receive continually strong reinforcements from the Mohammedan population. In the victorious battle of Olti the Turks captured over 1000 Russians, six guns and large quantities of ammunition and other war-material. The coming fights will probably take place in the Centre of the Russian positions.—The Turkish Southern Army is now on the march to Egypt. Of the 200 members of the Turkish Parliament, no less than 40 have joined the colours.—A Turkish cruiser met a Russian fleet of 17 warships on December 24th in the Black Sea. The Turk opened fire, damaged the Russian cruiser *Restislaw*, and sank two mine-layers. The other Russian ships retreated toward Sebastopol. Two Russian officers and 30 marines were made prisoners.

The three Kings in Conference.

Full Agreement.
From our Special Correspondent.
Malmö. So far as I can gather from conversations with the Swedish and Norwegian Ministers for Foreign Affairs, the matters discussed by King Gustav, King Christian, and King Haakon were in two categories. Included in the first were means for dealing with various problems which have arisen in connection with the war, such as the disarming of belligerent vessels which have taken refuge in Scandinavian ports, the treatment of belligerent reservists sailing in Scandinavian ships, and like matters.

In the second category were the measures which could be taken to alleviate the situation caused by regulations which the various belligerents have adopted, such as those which impede Scandinavian shipping. It was agreed that this was a more difficult matter, and while it was pointed out that any steps which might be taken would not be directed against any one Power or group of Powers, yet it would certainly carry more weight if the three countries acted in agreement.

I asked whether it was the intention of the Scandinavian Powers to seek to extend the agreement to other neutral Powers, particularly the United States. The Minister answered that for the present there was no such intention.

Russians Admit Defeat in Poland

Amsterdam, December 26th. *Morning Post* reports from St. Petersburg that the Tsar has been compelled to give up the chief object of the strategical offensive and ordered his armies to concentrate upon the inner line of defence. The advance on Cracow had to be postponed in order to safeguard Warsaw.

Japanese Remain in Asia.

Tokyo Parliament Dissolved.
Rotterdam. Reuter hears that the question of sending Japanese troops to Europe has never been contemplated, as technical and financial difficulties are too great. The Japanese Parliament, moreover, has refused to sanction an increase of the army by two divisions, thus expressing its opposition to the war. The Mikado has therefore dissolved Parliament.

America after the War.

What Sir G. Paish Thinks.
New York. Sir George Paish, Financial Adviser to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in an interview just prior to his departure for London expressed the opinion that, while the war was likely to bring the United States considerable prosperity, the country's share in the post-war world would come later, because no considerable number of people could be made to suffer without all sooner or later having to suffer in sympathy. The world was now consuming seed-corn, which meant nothing but loss once the war was over. Great Britain would in a few years save more than the cost of the war. With militarism crushed, as it inevitably would be (?), the rate of expenditure for defence purposes would be cut in half, thus saving some £40,000,000 a year.

At Loggerheads!

The Allies begin to disagree amongst themselves. Mutual recriminations.
Russia counted on England.
Whilst France and England pinned all their hopes upon the northern colossus.
Now or never!

General Joffre's urgent appeal to General French to hasten up the promised forces.
Black troops not wanted.

Belgians furious with the English. "Truth" says that the Belgians are immoral, have no manners and are centuries behind in civilisation.

Quite one of the most significant signs of the times, is the publication of constant criticisms of the Allies against one another. It is a most difficult thing for allies, at all times, to work together in a campaign. But when you get nations such as England, France, Russia, so entirely different in temperament, race and language, the problem of mutual agreement becomes ever so much more difficult.

The deadlock.
When it came to the deadlock, in the west and the French and English found themselves face to face with what a French paper described, as, a "line of impregnable defences", drawn up by the Germans, upon which they stormed and stormed again in vain, it became evident to the Allies that all efforts to advance were futile. From that time out, every hope of the French, English and Belgians, was pinned upon the success of the great northern colossus, which had given manifold promises and assurances that it would surely overwhelm the joint Imperial force with the utmost ease. Even the Tsar had, in addressing his troops, promised them that they would pass Christmas in Berlin.

Tannenbergh, in England and France was so well explained away by the Russians, that in neither of those countries, was that vast annihilation of about a quarter of a million of Russians, allowed to disturb the public mind in the least. So also, the second series of battles ranging from Thorn to Cracow, in which 88,000 Russians, unwounded, were taken prisoners, were once again looked upon lightly, in Paris and London. Those victories, in face of the false reports from Petersburg, were summed up by the Allies, as an illusion of the German head quarters staff.

Third and last victory.
But, it has been impossible to conceal from the keenly expectant French and British public the third and last conclusive victory of General Hindenburg, which culminated in the capture of the big industrial city of Lodz, and the complete retreat of the enemy all along the lines, with enormous loss, which, unofficially is estimated at 150,000 Russians disposed of, one way or another. It is, here, universally accepted, that although full details are not yet known, the much vaunted Russian offensive has been fully disposed of, for a long time, if not altogether.

A terrible blow.
When this news finally became known, it came as a staggering blow to the French and British leaders. The Temps, one of the rare serious papers of France, appeared with a scathing denunciation of Russian tactics, by its military expert, a well known General. Simultaneously the London Times, through its military correspondent Colonel Repington, declared that Russia's plan of campaign appeared incomprehensible. The *Novoe Vremia*, nowadays stated to have come under the control of the notorious Lord Northcliffe press syndicate, published an Editorial bluntly asserting that nothing short of a miracle could save the Russian forces, which appeared to be hopelessly lost. Its publication was at once stopped.

Meanwhile the Russians had, for some time, begun to taunt the French and British for not making use of the big attack upon the Russians in Poland, in order to accomplish which the Germans were credited with having depleted their ranks in the west; to attack the Germans. The Russians had pinned the utmost faith and hopes upon the powers of the British navy and wanted to know, very much, why Albatros's Dreadnoughts did nothing towards helping out the ever growing more dangerous situation of the Allies.

The French, who have for long past begun to realise that the war is going particularly badly for them and that the English are making them fight Britain's battles, make no secret of their dislike at the overbearing conduct of the English and want to know why it is that the English don't send over more reinforcements. Further they ask, pointedly, why, when England does send troops, such a large proportion of them are blacks,

very unfitted for a campaign in a damp, cold climate.

A row royal.
A propos of this failure of the British to send reinforcements, in sufficient numbers, it is an open secret that, the subject was made the occasion of a hot exchange of opinion between Generals Joffre and French. As the fighting is going on in ten of France's richest provinces, which are being reduced to ruin, the English statement that the war may be infinitely prolonged, finds no echo amongst the French, but is, on the contrary, much resented. So General Joffre was annoyed and put it forcibly, that if Britain proposed sending reinforcements it was "Now or Never! But that France neither wants raw levies from Canada or Australia, nor black troops from India, more picturesque than useful."

The Belgian Guest.
Under the above heading the English well known weekly paper "Truth", has a remarkable article concerning the Belgians who have now found asyle in England, their own homes being gone, owing to a too great faith in British promises. The hypocrisy and meanness of that article is unbounded, and it would be well that it should be published in all papers read by Belgians, in order that they may know what kind friends the English are.

After a lot of absurd praise of the British, this Englishman writes:
"Being English, I know my people and my country and being for 25 years a resident in Belgium, I know the Belgians. In the first flush of indignation and disgust, many a worthy man and woman will open their hearts and doors to the homeless unfortunates. (made homeless by the English. The Ed.)"

Then a week of close contact and it is of necessity discovered that Belgian civilisation is some generations behind our own. We must always remember that the style of life adopted by the quite humble middle class of people in England is rarely followed by the Belgians of a very superior class; and only then by those who have travelled and learnt the comforts of our English homes. The refinements of the most modest home in England are entirely lacking in Belgium. The upper middle classes frequently feed (A delicate term. Editor) in their front kitchens; dainties of table service is practically unknown outside of the very rich, and with them often relegated to times of hospitality only; table manners are bad all the way through. But with the lower middle class, of whom such an immense number are seeking our shores, they can only be designated as disgusting."

The writer continues in much the same strain, belittling the Belgian and immodestly lauding the English as models of everything that is refined and correct and goes on to warn all English, that the Belgian servant girls are without exception, devoid of moral character, whilst the youths are coddled and brought up to have a dislike to fresh air and healthy outdoor recreation. They are not taught self control and consequently become vitiated and unhealthy to a degree. Such youths could exercise a pernicious effect, upon those with whom they come into contact."

After having thus warned the British, against the perniciousness of the Belgians, this wonderful specimen of British self-sufficiency gives vent to the following truly English form of cant:—

Abject cant.
"A travelled Belgian said to me yesterday, 'Seeing what thousands of my countrymen are entering your country I can but hope they will have their eyes opened to their backwardness in the march of civilisation. They have already learned much, but they have still much to learn, and that much is in the nature of those amenities of daily life which refine and elevate'. He ends up with a silly attack upon the Belgian children.

Personally I have been a good deal in Belgium and can state, without any hesitation, that the Belgians, in points

of civilisation, in their knowledge of life and how to live, in their educational and artistic sentiments, are far and away ahead of the English. The Belgians are well known as the pioneers of industry the world over and they are a far more industrious and hard working race than the English. That they do not waste time in watching games of football, like the English, is much to their credit, and the brave manner in which they have fought in this war, equals anything of the kind done by the Britons.

But it is typical of the traditional narrow-mindedness of the English race, that such a mean attack as the above should be made upon a people, who for the time being are the guests of England and upon whom the English have brought such absolute and utter ruin. Well indeed, may the Belgians today hate the very name of Great Britain, which so basely left the Belgians in the lurch at Antwerp, and, since then, according to the Belgians have pushed them into the front to do the hard fighting and receive the bullets.

Use of Aircraft.

The American Protest.
From our own Correspondent.

New York. It is now taken for granted that President Wilson personally protested against attacks on cities occupied by non-combatants by means of bombs dropped from aircraft. The protest was made early in October last.

So far Dr. Wilson has not discussed the subject for publication, and has confined himself to conferences with diplomatic representatives of the belligerent Powers, who were reminded of the article in The Hague Convention which provides for a notice of twenty-four hours of the purpose to attack a zone inhabited by non-effectives, to enable such persons within that time to remove themselves from the danger zone.

"If this is true," comments the *New York Sun*, "it is, perhaps, the most important news concerning America's relation to the war in Europe that has appeared since the beginning of August. Its surpassing importance is due to the fact that, if true, it would indicate the Administration's acquiescence in the urgent demand of thousands of well-meaning persons throughout the country that this Government, as one of the signatories of the Conventions of The Hague, shall do its duty with regard to infractions of the rules of warfare supposed to be contained in these conventions."

Germans Rebuild Belgian Bridges.

The Stockholm *Politiken* hears from its Belgian correspondent that the Germans have already rebuilt bridges to the value of 20 Million Francs, which had been blown up by the Belgians, who thereby hoped to impede the German advance.

German Airman Over the Thames.

Amsterdam, December 26th. A duel in mid-air proved a most thrilling spectacle for the population of Sheerness, Gravesend and other places on the right-bank of the Thames Estuary. A German Albatros-Biplane had passed up the Thames as far as Southend, where the airman are said to have dropped bombs. The aeroplane then passed on and was sighted at Sheerness apparently on its way to London. English airmen followed the Germans from Gravesend to Erith. The Albatros was shot at by anti-aircraft guns and the spectators could see the Germans exchange shots with their pursuers. Two of the English aeroplanes attempted to drive the Albatros towards the third British machine on which a machine gun was mounted. But the German pilot skillfully kept his machine in such a position, that the Englishman did not dare to fire for fear of hitting his own comrades. Several other English aeroplanes then appeared and the German made good his escape by dashing straight into a bank of fog. Further search by the English proved fruitless.

Lion Hunt in Theatre.

New York. Five lions escaped from the 86th-street Theatre during a performance causing a panic among the audience. A dozen policemen opened fire on the animals, and during the shooting three persons, including a police sergeant, were wounded by bullets. Angered by the bullets the lions attacked the police, injuring two.

Several of the audience had to be taken to hospital for treatment for the injuries received during the panic. The lions were finally secured separately except one, which reached the street and terrorised a photograph gallery and then a crowded tenement house, where it was killed.

Budapest And The War.

In the beautiful capital of a Hungary rejuvenated by half a century of cultural work the world war is now affording a historical opportunity of proving its educational, economical and social achievements. In the case of every nation war will answer these momentous questions: Do you make your mark on the battlefield? Do your towns show very strong traces of your sons having gone out to the fray? Modern Hungary may truly be proud of the answer obtained as to her vitality. The field of battle re-echoes the glory of the Hungarian soldiers. And the towns in the Empire of the Crown of Stephen do not betray by their appearance that the young Magyars are facing the foe in their millions.

This applies particularly to the capital. It is as touching as it is imposing to see how everyone thinks of the war, works for the war, subordinates everything to the sacred national issue, and how, yet with the exception of the transports of wounded, the Red Cross flags, the many soldiers about the streets and the shop windows full of war postcards, almost nothing points to an abnormal state of things. In Budapest the life, the labour, the effort of a population, full of the highest aspirations goes on steadily. The institutions created by a progressive and generous municipal policy, which during the last few years have raised the great town to a model locality of municipal socialism, are now passing through their test. Although being the youngest of the big continental capitals Budapest is now called upon to fulfill the same tasks as the oldest and strongest of them. And it fulfills them in a brilliant manner of course way.

Shortly after the outbreak of war Burgomaster Barczy convoked the municipal council of Budapest and said: "The war demands sacrifices from all of us: blood and sweat from those who fight the battles; tears and sorrow from those who have stayed at home. To alleviate the wants of lonely women and children and dry their tears; to prevent the sudden paralysis of economic life, to wage, along with the great war that other great struggle against distress occasioned by the war, to do these things we that have stayed at home are lined up in battle order."

The Burgomaster was right. Budapest is scoring brilliant victories in its struggle. Many, very many have gone out to fight. But those who have stayed at home are working. Budapest is not a picture of exhaustion, or of doubt. A fanatic faith in victory is the tonic of the labours dedicated to the future, so that once the war will be ended those returning home may smoothly enter upon the to-morrow and commence again where they left off on the 26th July.

The appearance of the capital, as said above, has hardly been affected by the war. The noise and bustle of the street has become less by a mere shade. There are fewer carriages and motor cars about, but along the Kaiser Wilhelm Strasse, Andrassy Strasse, Rakoczi Strasse there is considerable vehicular traffic. The main thoroughfares are teeming with humanity. Luxury and feasting have been banished from Budapest, and where necessary, household arrangements have been cut down, yet meat market statistics show that the citizens are consuming even more meat than they did before the war. Furthermore it is shown that although the consumption of lighting-gas has gone down, more gas has actually been used for household purposes.

Only now in time of war it is shown of what immense sacrifices the population of Budapest is capable. This is proved by the fact that during last September the Budapest revenue from taxes has gone up by 3.8 million kronas as compared with September last year. The further fact that the amount of deposits on notice and on current account with the Budapest banking establishments has hardly undergone a change tends to illustrate that the war does not frighten the population and that everyone feels confident of victory. When the moratorium was published the important banks announced that they would not avail themselves of its privileges, but would pay out deposits to anyone wishing to withdraw. But the majority of depositors left their money in the banks, only withdrawing sums with a view of subscribing to the War Loan.

But the greatest recognition is due to Budapest's fight against scarcity and want, in which fight authorities and society are standing shoulder to shoulder. And it may be said that a victory has been obtained, for distress in Budapest is conspicuous by its absence. **The hungry are given food; those willing to work are given employment.** By the end of December 8.5 million kronas will have been paid out to 35,000 families for account of the Government, while the town of Budapest has up to now spent about 5 million kronas on benevolent institutions and on the support of those in need. In 35 soup kitchens 15,000 persons are fed day by day. A central establishment is in the course of erection where 5-10,000 dinners will be cooked every day. In view of the rising prices of corn and flour the town contracted, immediately after war was

Forced To Act As A Spy.

Some time ago a news item appeared in the German press concerning a British aviation officer who forced a German prisoner-of-war to accompany him in a British war aeroplane to serve him as a spy over the German positions at the front. It was stated at the time that this unfortunate prisoner had to make his trip in the British aeroplane without sufficient clothing, as a result of which he was near death's door when the aeroplane was brought to earth by German shrapnell fire.

It has now been ascertained just who this prisoner was and exactly what happened to him. He is a Saxon volunteer infantry private by the name of Erich Callies, now an invalid at the military hospital of Leipzig-Plagwitz, where he is suffering from his experiences, from which he will probably never recover.

This is his story, as told under oath: "One Sunday evening, in the last week of October, about 9 p. m. while fetching water I was captured by an English patrol midway between Merkem and Nachtigall in Belgium. They took me back of their trenches to a camp, where they lashed me to a tree. All night long I stood lashed to this tree. Monday forenoon my fetters were loosened. They took me before some English officers.

"One of them, who spoke fluent German, asked me where our heavy guns stood, where our General Staff was quartered, how our trenches ran, what troops were at our immediate front, and where our ammunition trains entered the front. I answered all his questions with false information, which I invented on the spur of the moment.

"After they got through questioning me an aviation officer ordered the two English soldiers, who had been guarding me, to take off my cap, belt and tunic. Why this was done I did not understand, unless they wanted to use my gray military coat and cap for possible spy purposes. The aviation officer and his two soldiers then took me to the aviation field. Here the aviation officer showed me a sketchmap of the immediate region around us and told me that he would expect me later to indicate on it the exact positions of our troops over which he meant to make a flight together with me.

"Thereupon he climbed into his aeroplane and the two soldiers thrust me into the seat beside him, to which I was lashed fast. The aeroplane rose and we flew high up through the clouds for several hours. Without my coat and cap I nearly froze to death. Even with my coat it would not have been much better. The officer beside me wore a fur lined leather overcoat, a warm leather cap over his head, ears and neck, thick gauntlets on his hands and goggles over his eyes. Of course I caught a terrible cold. When we descended my hand was so numb that I could not hold the pencil with which the aviation officer wanted me to indicate our German positions on his sketchmap.

"On the following day, a Tuesday, I was forced once more to accompany this aviation officer in his flights. Before he started he showed me how the bombs were to be released and told me that I was to let loose the bombs whenever he made loops in the air with his aeroplane, otherwise he would shoot me with his revolver. I did not let loose any bomb during our flight. At one point, when our machine was making a loop, the officer nudged me, and when I failed to act he made a motion as if he would draw his revolver, but steering the aeroplane kept him too busy. When we descended he struck me in the face with his fist, and other English soldiers came up and punched me in the face.

"Our last flight was made Thursday. By this time my cold was so bad that I was in a state of high fever. I was so feeble and depressed that the soldiers no longer felt that they had to lash me to my seat, for it was plain that I was too weak to be dangerous. I begged them to return my coat to me, but they only ordered me to shut up and threatened to punch me again if I opened my mouth.

"That Thursday, while we were in mid-flight, some German shrapnell burst declared, for a large quantity of flour for the municipal bakery, so that this bakery is in a position even now to sell bread at an exceptionally moderate price.

The output of the bakery is now being increased to 50,000 kilos of bread a day which answers to the need of 200,000 persons. The corporation also contracted for potatoes, vegetables, fish, game, butter, eggs, which victuals are sold at cost-price in the municipal shops.

The municipal corporation also lodges fugitives, finds loans free of interest for struggling tradesmen, provides public nurseries and has established 140 war hospitals with 35,000 beds.

In the town hall an enquiry office has been opened where anyone in distress can obtain free advice, legal assistance, railway tickets etc. In connection with one of the special departments two excellent maternity homes are available, which have already rendered aid to 3000 women. Another department collects clothes for civilians and underclothing for soldiers.

near us. I could not hear the cries of the explosion because of the deafening racket of our aeroplane, but I saw the little white clouds of the bursting shrapnell quite close to us. Our machine must have been struck by a flying fragment of shell, for suddenly the English officer had to descend. He succeeded in gliding down some distance away from the nearest German trenches.

"After we came to earth and had climbed out of our seats, the officer muttered something about water for his cooler and started off with a canvas pail in hand towards a canal near by. When he had gone some distance I started to run towards our German line. He did not see me at first, but presently he turned and fired after me with his pistol. I threw myself on my face where there was a hollow in the field, and so it came that he could not find me again. I lay hidden until after dark, after which I managed to rejoin our nearest German outposts.

"By the time I got into our German lines, I was in such a high state of fever that I could not tell what was going on around me—All I know is that I awoke later on a cot in one of our field hospitals, still delirious with fever. When they first questioned me about my adventure I was too weak and unbalanced to tell any connected story, in fact I fainted before I had half-told my story. The surgeons say that I am now suffering from acute pleurisy, pneumonia and inflammatory rheumatism. This last is the most painful, but the surgeon says I am bound to suffer from this alone for at least three months more. How long I may yet have to suffer from the other complications the surgeon cannot tell. This is the first time that the surgeon has permitted me to make a full statement."

The German War office, while publishing the affidavit of this prisoner of war, draws attention to article 25 of the protocol of the second Hague conference, subscribed by Great Britain as well as by Germany, in which it is expressly stipulated: "Belligerents will not force subjects of the enemy to take part in active war operations against their own country".

General Joffre takes the Offensive.

During the last few days, renewed activity has been reported from the western front. The French offensive is due to an Army-Order, issued by General Joffre, the French Commander-in-Chief, on December 17th. The order runs as follows:

For three months countless esvere attacks have not succeeded in breaking through our lines. We have withstood them victoriously everywhere. The moment has arrived to take advantage of their present weakness, now that we have re-enforced ourselves in men and arms and materials. The hour of attack has come. After having held back the German forces, we now have to break them and free our country definitely from the invaders. Soldiers! France is counting more than ever upon your courage, your energy and your will to conquer, at any price. You have conquered already at the Marne, at the Yser, in Lorraine and in the Vosges. You will know how to conquer till victory is achieved in the end.

This order is to be read to all troops to-night and it is to be prevented from getting into the newspapers. Joffre.

This last sentence is most amusing in view of the fact, that it even got into the German papers through the German "Oberste Heeresleitung." As the German official reports show, the French offensive has up till now taken the form of desultory attacks all along the line without any material results.

Centenary of Peace.

Celebration Postponed.

New York. The postponement is announced, except as regards the participation of churches, schools, and colleges, of the program of the centenary of peace celebrations, owing to the war.

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German Diction. — German lessons

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Bamberger Strasse 27. 1-3.

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Wilhelmshöherstr. 29 (Kaiser Allee).

Vegetarian Restaurants in Berlin.

Arthur Kammer's Kronen Strasse 47
Vegetarian Restaurant First Floor.

Freya, Vegetarian Restaurant Charlottenburg, Bismarckstrasse 8, close to Knie.

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