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The Continental Times

Special War Edition

A JOURNAL FOR AMERICANS IN EUROPE

Hotel Adlon
Berlin.

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ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN GENEVA VIENNA ROME

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1915.

War News.

W. T. B. January, 29th. The French fortress of Dunkerque was bombarded by German aeroplanes. A French attack in the dunes at Nieuport has been repulsed. The English tried to re-take their lost positions at La Bassée, but were driven back. Russian attack at Gumbinnen failed, the enemy sustaining heavy casualties. North east of Bolimow the Germans drove the enemy from his advanced positions and penetrated into the Russian main position.

W. T. B. January 30th. The French losses at Nieuport have been very great; over 300 killed Moroccans and Algerians are lying in the dunes. South of the La Bassée canal more trenches were captured from the English and 60 prisoners made. In the western part of the Argonne a German attack resulted in the gain of a considerable stretch of ground; 12 officers and 731 men were taken prisoners and 12 machine guns and 10 light guns captured. Nearly 500 dead Frenchmen are lying on the battle field; Regiment No. 155 seems to be annihilated. German losses comparatively small. French night attacks at Verdun have been repulsed. The enemy was driven back from Angomont near Badonviller; Angomont has been occupied by the Germans. The Russians attempted several attacks in East Prussia with no success. Russian attacks near Borzomow were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy.

Vienna, January 29th. The Russians were repulsed with heavy losses west of the Uszok Pass in the Carpathians. The fighting at Vezerszallas and Volovac is over; 400 prisoners have been made there.

Vienna, January 30th. Heavy fighting in the Carpathians during the last few days resulted in the re-occupation of the Passes by the Austro-Hungarians. The Russians during the last ten days lost in the Carpathians 10 000 men taken prisoners and 6 machine-guns.

Reuter, January 30th. The battle in the morass at La Bassée was the greatest fight, the English have been engaged in this year. A Prussian regiment of the line made a splendid attack along the road La Bassée-Bethune and took a number of English trenches by surprise.

Constantinople, January 29th. The Turkish forces, operating in Azerbeidjan are engaged in a battle with the Russians at Chioi. The first line of the Russians entrenchments was captured on January 27th.

Reuter, Cape Town, January 30. The Boer force, commanded by Colonel Maritz, has gone back into German territory, to fetch bigger guns. The rebels are accompanied by four German officers.

Agence Havas, Lyons, January 30th. The Governor General has issued orders for keeping the whole town in darkness after 9 p.m. All windows must be hung with dark curtains in order not to let any light escape.

Agence Havas, Paris, January 30th. Several German aeroplanes appeared over Baillieu and dropped bombs on the railway station.

Reuter, London, January 31st. It is reported from Fleetwood (Lancashire) that the German submarine U 21 sank the British freight steamer *Ben Cruachen* and *Linda Blouchi* in the Irish Sea. A steamer arriving at Liverpool brought the message that a third steamer had been sunk.

Agence Havas, Paris, January 31st. A German submarine sank the English steamer *Takomaru* in the Channel off Le Havre. French torpedo-boats saved the crew. The steamer *Skaria* was also shot at, but did not sink. She was towed to Le Havre.

Revolutionary Russia.

Constant reports come: in spite of the strictest measures taken to keep the truth from reaching abroad; to the effect that the revolutionary movement in Russia is slowly but surely growing and developing. The last revolution in Russia; which came so nearly being a success; took place immediately after the war with Japan and was incubated in the underground dwellings of the troops in Manchuria. It was principally fomented by the revolutionaries of the towns. This time the movement appears to have its initiative amongst the peasants. For those who know Russia, that means a very serious thing. The Russian Moudjik individually is the mildest human being known, collectively they have all the instincts of the wolf, bloodthirsty and insatiable.

American League for True Neutrality.

New York, January 30th. A mass-meeting in New York, was addressed by Professor Muensterberg, who asked the audience to form a *League for True Neutrality*. The speaker met with tremendous applause.

Champions of Civilisation.

Allies put into the field, Pathans, Senegalese, Sikhs, Turcos, Mongols, Khirgise, Hindus, Moors and Fiji Islanders.



Those Barbarians.

Unfortunate Asiatics forced into the front battle lines.

Heathen Mercenaries.

Fiji Island, reformed cannibals called in to help England.

To the Editor Continental Times.

There has appeared of late a tendency in a limited section of the papers, published in America and England, to excuse and apologize for the introduction of the hordes of barbarians which Great Britain has pressed into service in her effort to destroy the christian civilization of Germany.

Public opinion, in the neutral states, is also beginning to criticise and condemn the conduct of the British officers in pushing these unfortunate Asiatics and Africans in the front of the battle line. The truth of this has been vouched for by American correspondents, who have also corroborated the official German statements to the same effect. Moreover, the appalling losses among the black troops in northern France and Flanders, as compared with those of the supporting English, gives substantial evidence that John Bull is true to his old traditions in utilizing other races to do his hard fighting.

The Irish Devils.

In the beginning of the war the Irish and Scotch regiments were always in the posts of danger and led the attack. But they have been practically annihilated so that now the exotic nations of Africa and Asia are pushed to the front to bear the brunt of the German attack.

Some of those papers to which I have referred contend that England is justified in importing these barbarians because Turkey has joined in the war on behalf of Germany and Austria. This argument is neither reasonable nor logical. In the first place Turkey did not commence hostilities until several months after the outbreak of the war and then only after an attack upon her fleet by Russia and after England had seized two of her war-ships, for which she had paid in full.

Respected Turks.

In the second place Turkey has been in Europe for over 500 years, her Ambassadors have been received on an equality in all Christian courts and she has been a valuable and respected ally of England, also against Russia. If Germany should import Mohammedan tribes from the jungles and deserts of Asia and Africa and introduce them on the Continent to defend her cause, there would be some merit in England's argument. But Germany is too noble a power to invoke the aid of savages and heathens in her wars and does not believe in imperilling the supremacy of the White Race.

American correspondents have informed the public as to the fiendish practices and barbaric cruelties of these heathen mercenaries of England. They have told us that they delight in hacking the wounded with their knives and gauging out their eyes, and that they cut off the ears and noses of their victims, which they treasure as keepsakes. The correspondents have also warned Americans as to the danger involved in the introduction by these savages of Asiatic and African

diseases into Europe, through their filthy habits and their entire ignorance of the elementary ideas of hygiene.

Even Cannibals.

Some 200,000 of these heathens have already been imported into Europe. The illustrated London newspapers have recently displayed, actually with pride and jubilation, pictures of Fiji Island cannibals, under the training of British officers, who, they stated, have volunteered for the front and have been accepted by Mr. Hartcourt, the Assistant Secretary of War. As a concession to public opinion they announced that they had abandoned their cannibalistic practices and become methodists.

A country which will call to its aid such mercenaries to bolster up her fighting forces is unfit to be classed as a civilized power and merits the unmeasured derision of humanity. These refined English gentlemen absolutely refuse to travel in the same railway car with a colored person and treat that entire race with unutterable contempt. Nevertheless they are glad to make use of them to protect their own precious bodies from their white enemy. However, we must not forget that it is only 100 years since the same English hired the red Indians to scalp our ancestors, the American colonists.

How low has the mighty British Empire fallen! Is not King George the ally and friend of the regicide and assassin Peter of Serbia?

Loss of "Audacious" unofficially admitted.

"Quarterly Review" Dodges the Censor.

The December number of the London "Quarterly Review," in the course of a long and scathing criticism of the English censorship, has three references to that mysterious loss suffered by the British navy when the "Audacious" went down:

"It is most unfortunate that the charge of suppressing important facts should have lately received support from the grave error of judgment—we can regard it as nothing less, and need regard it as nothing more—involved in the concealment of the mishap which befell the navy off the coast of Ireland on Oct. 25."

"Of course the event was soon afterwards known in Germany; and we have also before us a copy of the Vossische Zeitung for Nov. 24, with the heading "Ein englischer Dreadnaught vernichtet" ("Destruction of an English Dreadnaught") in large type on its first page."

"Neither Admiral Togo nor the Japanese Admiralty was blamed for losing the Hatsuse; nor would the English people have blamed the Admiralty for the accident to the Audacious. They are, we believe, too sensible and too generous for that. What we do blame the Admiralty for—and we blame them severely—is for attempting to blindfold the public."

The "New York Times" in quoting these extracts, adds the following sensible comment:

"There has been no report of punishment inflicted by the censors for this defiance of their will, so perhaps nothing very dreadful would have happened to the London dailies if, in this particular case, when secrecy was so useless and publicity so harmless, they had defied the suppressors and boldly and promptly printed the information they all had within a day after the ship went down."

Bernard Shaw, the Accuser.

By K. W.

Bernard Shaw in an open letter published in the "New Statesman" justifies his past attacks against the English Government (which were reproduced in our columns). This most famous of England's present day writers even has the astonishing moral courage of adding new scathing accusations to the old ones. In its own way the letter might be compared with the memorable "J'accuse" thundered forth by Zola when France stood disgraced, not of course by an unjust war but a crying injustice against an individual, by a judicial murder. The Dreyfus Affair roused the conscience of the whole civilised world, yet within the borders of France public opinion was so befogged in favour of the government that it was a dangerous deed to break a lance for justice and truth. An equally bold undertaking it is for Bernard Shaw to raise his voice in order to try and rouse the British nation from the firm hypnotic belief suggested to it by the government that England's war is good and just. But what ennoble Bernard Shaw's utterances most is this: They imply the frank admission that he himself was wrong when his sound judgment was confused by the sweeping influences of powerfully organised misrepresentation, making him take up such silly catchwords as "militarism," "Prussian jackboot," etc. Zola's "J'accuse" eventually led to the re-establishment of France's honour. Might not the written word of a Shaw similarly set the stone rolling that will restore the equipoise in the mind of the English public? How much greater is the issue, where the lives of thousands are concerned! True, Bernard Shaw is looked upon as a great jester, nothing more nor less. But have not cap and bells always been donned just in order to render more attractive the utterance of great, solemn truths? Ought not the attractiveness thus become a means of "rubbing in" the truths more effectively?

In his letter Shaw points out that Lord Roberts and others have sounded a warning to England against the Russians. He continues:

"And now we are shedding our blood in order to make Russia the strongest military autocracy in Europe. Have we forgotten that when the Hun peril lay centuries behind us Austria-Hungary stood between the Turks and ourselves? Have we forgotten Sobieski, without whom we might now be sitting as slaves in Tripolis or Algiers? And yet we make war upon Austria-Hungary. Yes, we are a hopeless people tumbling from one ingratitude to another. And how have we behaved towards the Germans? Have we forgotten all the brave Hessians who earned so many laurels for us English from Marlborough to Bourgoigne? And where would our Protestant religion in England be if the German Luther had not been born. Our proceeding remains an eternal disgrace."

Shaw then expresses that the Belgian neutrality was a mere pretence. England would have declared war upon Germany all the same. Germany can prove that the Belgian defensive was long premeditated and prepared. Belgium has simply pressed against the door, so that England should gain time. Now England ought to help Belgium that had suffered so terribly, not at all by the Germans only, but by the English and Belgian troops, Shaw declares.

The British Menace the Real Danger to America.

We reprint below an article which appeared, double-leaded, at the head of the editorial columns of the *Washington Post*:

"British Militarism on the Sea—the Real Menace."

The British admiralty proudly announces that the new cruiser *Caroline* has been completed at Birkenhead in record time—ten and one-half months from the date of laying the keel. The *Caroline* was to have been delivered on May 31, 1915, and her completion and acceptance on December 17 is justly acclaimed as a triumph of British ship-building. She is a light cruiser of 3,800 tons, with 30 knots speed.

Mr. Winston Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, recently stated that more vessels were being built in England than were being destroyed by the enemy. The British navy, he said, was stronger than it had been at the beginning of the war, and was rapidly increasing its preponderance over the German navy.

Absolute mastery of the Sea, Great Britain's Goal.

Thus Great Britain moves forward toward her goal—the absolute mastery of the sea. There is no concealment about it. Militarism on land is a hateful thing, to be fought and destroyed if it takes all the nations of Europe to do it. But militarism on the sea is an admirable thing, so long as it is British militarism. That is the British view which the world is asked to accept.

How can the United States be expected to rest at ease, without increasing its navy, in the face of Great Britain's determination to build such a gigantic navy? How can there be any assurance of peace in the world while one nation plans to dominate all the others in every sea?

Great Britain appeals for the sympathy of the world, and especially for the sympathy of the United States, on the ground that she is "fighting America's battle against militarism." Germany is held up as an ogre to frighten Americans. Germany's great military machine is denounced as a menace to the world, which must be destroyed before Europe or America can be secure.

But what about

British Militarism?

What about the mobile military machine which England can move against our ports and against the Panama Canal?

Germany's Army is not a Menace to United States,

because it cannot come to these shores. But Britain's navy can come, and it can bring an Army with it.

If Great Britain is honestly trying to do away with militarism and lift the burden of war taxes from all people, it is high time that a declaration should be made that the British navy will be curtailed. The world is entitled to an assurance of British good faith. Without such assurance no nation will be justified in keeping down naval expenditures.

There is no distinction to be made between German militarism and British militarism. The United States does not relish being threatened by either kind of militarism. It will not consent to the overlordship of Great Britain. The unctuous suggestion that all nations should yield the seas to Great Britain—that she will look after them—that her yoke is easy and her intentions honorable—is not at all reassuring to Americans. They do not want a yoke, even a British yoke. They do not ask Great Britain to look after them.

German Interference Imaginary.

Years and years of friction with Great Britain over shipping questions, and the experience of two wars with her are a continual reminder to Americans that they must rely upon themselves if they would be free upon the seas and upon land. British aggression and interference with American commerce is just as intolerable as German aggression and interference would be. We have had the first, and are still confronted with vexing complications; while German interference is an imaginary thing.

Until and unless Great Britain gives the world some assurance that she is not intending to build up a militarism of the sea comparable with German militarism on land, it is the duty of independent and self-respecting nations to prepare for their own defense. It is especially the duty of the United States to build up a navy that will be able to guard American coasts and protect American interests.

Americans will never consent to the proposal that their independence and the integrity of their coasts shall be guaranteed by the friendly navy of Great Britain.

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Alas, poor Civilisation!

Ah, Civilisation, how thy name has been polluted! In the name of civilisation, the Allies have, so far, brought into the field; to fight against christian white races, such types of uncivilised mercenaries, as savage Senegalese, negroes of various wild types, callous heartless Hindus, Sikhs, Turcos, Mongols, Khirgise and other colored and untutored people, not even omitting the Fiji Islanders, notorious for their partiality for human flesh, as food. This introduction of barbarians into European wars would seem worthy of the attention of the civilised nations at the next Hague Conference. It must be borne in mind, that the Yellow races alone, have a population three times the number of that of Europe, that they multiply at the rate of one hundred per cent every twenty years, whereas the white races only double in number every eighty years. Arm those colored people, teach them the art of modern warfare, how to kill the white men, and, it is easy to realise how quickly they will begin to act upon their own initiative, rise, en masse and exterminate the hated Giauour.

Breezy war news.

Realism is everything in modern day newspaper writing, it is the highest form of journalistic talent. The Continental Times today publishes a continuation of the highly interesting narrative, from the expert pen of Mr. Karl H. v. Wiegand, the well known representative of the United-Press of America, who, in the most realistic manner, tells of his experiences in the trenches of the German armies in the west. The descriptions given are such, that one might easily imagine oneself to have been there with this, the most experienced of all American war correspondents. Mr. v. Wiegand's lightness of touch and mastery of detail makes his writing of the highest interest, and as such, we commend it to all our readers.

U. S. Immigration Drops Forty-Five per Cent.

Year Shows 601,410 Fewer Arrivals Than in 1913—Large Increase of Departing Aliens.

New York. Immigration through the port of New York for 1914 fell off to the extent of 601,410 persons, or 45 per cent as compared with 1913, according to figures compiled by the Commissioner of Immigration and made public today. During 1913 arrivals numbered 1,334,914 persons of whom 1,163,993 were aliens and 170,921 were returning American citizens. In 1914 arrivals were only 733,504, of these 573,675 were aliens and 159,829 were citizens. Immigration statistics show that the number of departing aliens was greater by 37,818 than last year. During 1913 there left New York on steamships bound for foreign ports a total of 381,068 persons; during 1914 departures were 418,886. During last July, just before the outbreak of the war, arrivals at New York were 50,546 as against 108,909 during July, 1913. June shows the greatest loss for any month of the year, the record for that month, in 1913, being 136,690 aliens and 11,279 citizens, while in June, 1914, 57,139 aliens and 10,390 citizens, reached port. Immigration officials and representatives of the immigrant aid societies explain the falling off in immigration, aside from the war which is the chief factor, as being due to the curtailing of work in the United States and to an effort on the part of foreign countries to restrict emigration by providing work at home and bettering the condition of their working classes.

Budget Deficit in United States.

Reuter, Washington, January 30th. "A conference has taken place of eight members of the Government, who have discussed the disquieting growth of the deficit in this year's revenue. All branches of administration will probably take joint steps to economise as much as possible in their demands for next year Budget."

Americans in Europe Protest Against War Contracts With Allies.

The delivery of arms, ammunition and other war materials to the allies has raised a storm of protest not only among German and Irish-Americans but also among other Americans who want fair play in the war waged against Germany and Austria. This feeling has manifested itself in the Hitchcock Bill which has been introduced in the U.S. Senate.

We are informed that the Americans living in Europe have formed a strong *American Protest Committee* with the view of collecting signatures for a protest against the sale of war materials by American firms to Europe during the war. Special committees have been formed in Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Spain, Italy, Austria, Hungary and Switzerland and thousands of Americans in these countries have already signed the protest, which is to be sent to 7000 influential people in the States, and to business firms; foremost of all, of course to President Wilson, Mr. Bryan, all members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, to all Governors, Bishops, Professors, women's societies, peace societies, freemason's lodges, chambers of commerce etc. Signatures will also be collected in the United States. The protest has the following wording:

Protest against the delivery of Arms, Ammunition, and other Munitions of War by American Firms to Europe during the Present War.

"We, the citizens of the United States of America, appeal in the name of justice and humanity, in the name of neutrality and future peace to the people, to the law makers and the government of our country to prevent the export from our shores of one single weapon, or of one pound of powder to deal death in Europe.

We recognise the fact, that the export is legally permissible through private firms, but nevertheless know, that our executive and our legislature can stop such export by a determined course of strict neutrality, a neutrality which is actuated by righteousness and sustained by public opinion.

The President of the United States has prevented the loan of money to France, and thereby our country has set its own precedent of what is just and right. This precedent binds us in legal opinion, as well as in the estimate of the world, to pursue in the greater matter, as in the lesser, a course of indubitable neutrality.

Never in the history of nations, have orders of such gigantic proportions been accepted by any country as those now being executed in America for the continuance of the European war.

Do you know this fact?
Where are our peace societies?
Where are our women's organisations?

No matter with whom we Americans, either individually, or as a Nation sympathize politically, the statement up, to the present time has been true, that we, as a nation, have been first and foremost in forwarding the peace-movements of the world. Are we willing to resign our prestige as a Peace-Maker?

International business relations between our country and Europe have been extended and cordial. We protest against their destruction for the benefit of a few! Are we, for the sake of present business profit, willing to draw upon ourselves an enduring heritage of hatred? Generations will not suffice to wipe away the stain we bring upon ourselves! Men are dying on ghastly battle-fields for their ideals. Cannot we work and suffer for our ideal of the integrity of America.

Guns, cannon, cartridges, dynamite, bombs are going from our manufactories, not only to England, to France, and to Russia but also to Japan. We are fortifying not only Europeans against each other, we are fortifying others against ourselves. Is this done with the consent of the entire American people?

In case of any future struggle forced upon our own land, picture clearly the possible destruction brought upon us, did any neutral country of Europe take the position of neutrality we assume to-day. Does the American nation desire to resign the future security of its own citizens?

We protest against this destruction of American integrity, of American business interests, of American security, as a consequence of this one-sided neutrality!

We protest not only in the interest of America, but above all, in the name of humanity, against a prolongation by our country of this hideous warfare.

America's unlimited supply of death dealing machinery will cause an indefinite prolongation of this murder of humanity. When the war cloud lifts, our own land will be stained with the blood of our European brothers! Our actual military participation in this war, means Europe's last man!

We protest in the name of international relationship and honor; we protest in the name of suffering womankind; we protest in the name of helpless children; we protest in the name of all that lives and breathes, against any participation by our country in this human carnage!

We believe that, as a nation, we are not willing to resign our legacy of righteousness received from the Pilgrim Fathers. We believe

In the Trenches.

By Karl H. von Wiegand.

Realistic scenes of war. Hand grenade exchanges. Good humor reigns. Religion in camp.

Major Witte and Major Menge then took us in charge and we mowed forward. We met soldiers carrying a dead comrade—a youth of 19—in a canvas slung from a pole. "Stuck his head above the trench and got a bullet through it," was the laconic information.

For half an hour we zig-zagged through the trenches till we reached the most advanced, particularly looking out for the "windy corners," points where the bullets were flying particularly thick. Over our heads was the shrieking of shells and shrapnel. The French were shelling the road by which we had entered the woods.

Pot shots.

In the trenches, rifles peered over the edge every few feet. The rifles were thrust through a loophole in steel plates large enough to protect the head and shoulders. At points where the trenches were close enough to be seen through the brush, the Germans and French sharpshooters spent hours trying to "bulls-eye" the other through the little sight hole above the rifle barrel. Occasionally they potted one that way. In fact the shooting was like a target range several miles in length. It would quiet down to just a shot here and there every few seconds, then flare up all along the line.

As Major Witte and I moved still farther along, a heavy roar came from just ahead and around a turn. "That was a hand grenade," he volunteered. These ugly working missiles of death, were plentiful on hand in the German trenches. Many of them are handmade and around the explosive are wire nails bound by heavy wire. They rip and tear fearfully. Not infrequently it happens that the fuse is too long and that when it is dropped into one trench there is time to pick it up and throw it back.

The favourite weapon.

Handgrenades are the favorite weapon in the trench fighting. I was told, and are very deadly in their effect if they happen to land in a trench. Since the leaves have dropped, tree fighting has been made impossible. Until a few weeks ago, the French often would climb into tree-tops and from there shoot into the German trenches. The French would tie themselves fast. Several times the German sharpshooters succeeded in potting these. Held fast by the rope with which they were tied, they would hang suspended in the air. I was told that several such bodies were swinging from trees throughout the fighting zone of the woods.

Among all these conditions, damp, cold, increasing chill nights, ceaseless fighting for weeks, I was astonished to find the men in the trenches in good humor and excellent spirits. While the fighting has been desperate at times in the Argonne, it has been carried on with a certain chivalry which has sprung between the two sides who have been lying so close one another for weeks. Like the boy in school who raises his hand to "go out," the Germans and French have agreed on a similar signal when a man wants to leave the trench and he is not fired on. Recently a cow wandered between the sputtering lines of steel-jacketed bullets. A Bavarian seized his cooking pot ran to the cow outside the trench and hastily began milking. Heads appeared above the trench on the French side in utter amazement and not a shot was fired. North of the Argonne forest the lines run through potato patches. I was told that the Germans and French agreed that at certain times a certain number of men from each side might dig potatoes and not be fired at.

Fun rife.

"Donnerwetter! Where is my Coffee", shouted a German soldier in the trench the other day. Twenty minutes later there came hail in perfect German from the French trench 30 yards away, "Herr Deutscher, have you got your coffee yet or can I send you some". Not infrequently one side or the other will swing the "no hit" or "missed" target signal after an unsuccessful shot.

The Pioneers or Sappers or what in America is the Engineering Corps, has an important place in the fighting in the Argonne Forest. They lay the mines and invariably prepare the way for taking a trench by storm by first bombarding it with handgrenades.

With the Crownprince driving a wedge of his lines through the Argonne and reports that his forces around St. Mihiel are making progress, it is probable that the situation of Verdun may soon become more serious for the French.

With the Left Wing of the German Army—Tiacourt France.—By Courier via Metz, Berlin and Rotterdam to New York.—Today I saw men in tears, strong men who form a part of one of the great "human slaughter machines" directed at

that, as a nation, we desire to retain our political prestige as an arbiter of peace. We believe that now, if ever, is the time for action! In this belief we send our protest and our appeal to every American who loves his country and desires the welfare of the world!"

one another; I saw longing yearning wistful looks—tears that did honor to those in whose eyes they welled.

Musical talent.

I cabled a story yesterday of how a "Gesangverein" or Choral society had been organized by the Germans in one of the Trenches North of Toul, to relieve the monotony of the hours and days, and of the concert given. It was a picture. The dense fog, the gray ghost-like figures of the soldiers in the deep black trench, the rifles ready for instant use lying across the protecting ridge of dirt, pointed toward the enemy's trench only 600 yards away, the stillness broken only by the distant boom of heavy guns, and the song that welled forth from voices that may soon be stilled.

Today I heard the same "Gesangverein" in the old French church at Tiacourt. Captain Rueff of the General Staff, on duty with the field staff at Tiacourt, had been detailed to accompany me, Captain Kliever of the General Staff of the United States Navy and Lieutenant-Colonel Bouveng, commander of the Swedish war academy at Stockholm. Captain Rueff, a splendid type of the officer who have made the German army what it is, had only a few days ago been decorated with the Iron Cross for bravery and gallant service. He proved a most delightful courteous guide and he wanted us to hear the "Gesangverein" in the church. The company had just come in for a rest after several days and nights in the trenches.

The choice.

A soft dim light pervaded the old church. The "singing society" of soldiers stood in the choir's place in the balcony. Other soldiers and we sat on the hard wooden bench-like pews. Scores of soldiers stood in the aisles. Deep silence. The singing leader raised his little baton and there began one of the most impressive concerts I have ever heard. No great operatic star ever had so attentive an audience or ever moved hearts as did those singing soldiers.

"It is the Day of the Lord," welled out in rich colorful masculine voices with so much feeling. As the anthem swelled, a religious fervour seemed to spread over the faces of the soldiers around me. Is it my imagination? No. I see hands clasped together heads bowed and lips moving in silent prayer.

Patriotism.

The anthem comes to an end. A moment impressive stillness then the soldiers begin "Dear Fatherland, My Beloved Fatherland." Heads are raised, shoulders squared. Patriotic exaltation comes into the faces—the love of country for which they are sacrificing lives. The song is at an end. Once more the leader raised his baton and the sweet cadence of "Meine Heimat is an dem Schoenen Rhein" (My Home is on the Beautiful Rhine), sweeps softly through the church.

A touch of nature.

There is movement among the soldiers in the church. The heart chord has been struck. Chins drop on breasts. Faces soften. The patriotic fire in eyes is extinguished by something that glistens. A French woman leading two little children by the hand, comes up the aisle from the door and kneels in front of the dark altar. A soldier at the end of the bench leans over and touches the hair of the little girl with his lips. Behind me sits a stalwart bearded soldier. His face has become very white. I see two big tears rolling down his bearded cheeks. His breast rises and falls as if he were struggling with some great emotion. His arms are partly outstretched as if reaching to clasp some one in them. With the back of his rough hand he brushes away the tears. "Never, never will I see my home—my loved ones again. It tells me so," I hear him whisper to himself as he places his hand over his heart. "Oh God, protect and keep them when I am no more."

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King Manoel Active.

Madrid, January 30th. *Imparcial* reports a rumour from Badajoz, according to which Ex-King Manoel of Portugal has crossed the Spanish border into Portugal. The Monarchist leaders are awaiting a turn of events in the province of Zamorra.

Baron Hein prisoner.

Another Austro-Hungarian consul held hostage by the Russians.

Vienna, Sunday. The great question of the moment is to know what to do, as regards the illegal detention by the Russians of Austro-Hungarian Consuls. In addition to the imprisonment of the Consul General in Odessa, Herr Paumgartner the Russians also hold, Consul Freiherr Robert v. Hein, who up to the outbreak of the war, was representing his country at Kiev. It is understood that Baron Robert is in Petersburg, but the Russian government refuses to supply him with a pass to leave country. He has been detained since the month of August. He is however free to go about the town of Petersburg at will.

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THE CONTINENTAL TIMES.

Reuter Lies About Austria-Hungary.

Vienna, January 27th. Reuter alleges again revolts in Bohemia and Hungary quoting as source Czech and Hungarian papers. The Vienna K. K. Telegr.-Korresp.-Büro denies the truth of these reports describing them as ridiculous; not a single paper in Austria-Hungary has published any of the alleged reports.

Missing British Officers.

London, Jan. 28. The War office has issued a circular containing the names of some 234 British officers, reported as missing and about whom no information can be obtained as to whether they are prisoners of war or dead. All inquiries of the American diplomatic and consular officials, to try and find out details, have so far failed. It is supposed that they have fallen upon the field of battle and been there buried. Most of the names given are those of officers of the crack British Regiments and amongst them figure those of Lord Crichton, eldest son of Lord Erne and Lord Richard Grosvenor, a near relation of the Duke of Westminster.

U.S. and Belgium.

German De Facto Control Recognised. Reuter, Washington, Jan. 28. The United States Government has sent a formal Note to Germany which, without discussing the sovereignty of Belgium, expresses willingness to make such arrangements as may be necessary with the German military authorities in de facto control of Belgian territory for the continuance of the American Consular Service there.

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Americans foregather.

Mrs. Consul-General Lay entertains the American Ambassador and Ambassadors and the American colony at the Esplanade Hotel Berlin.

Who said there were no Americans in Berlin? Why, as far as I can gather, the capital is teeming with them. Yesterday afternoon the above statement was fully proved by the crowded Princes room, of the Esplanade Hotel, where Mrs. Consul General Lay had invited the American Colony, to an afternoon tea. It was all life and animation and a right representative assembly of resident Americans in Berlin, beginning with the Ambassador and Ambassadors and all the members of the Embassy and the American officers who are over here, daily expecting to go to the front and see for themselves how the campaign is progressing.

Mrs. Lay received her guests in a pretty white frock of white crepe de chine with a tablier in flounces. A big buffet, adorned with petunias ran one side of the room and a large and beautiful Camelia plant, a bloom, sent by a friend formed a background for Mrs. Lay, as she received. Consul General T. G. Lay was assisting his wife to receive. There were a number of pretty faces present and tasteful toilettes on all sides.

The guests.

Amongst those I noticed there, were the American Ambassador and the Ambassador Mr. Gerard; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Grew, Mr. Roland, B. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Rudock of the Embassy. Also the Naval Attaché and Mrs. Gherardi, Mr. Rivington Pyne, Mr. Grafton, W. Minot, Mr. Charles H. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Lanier Winslow and Lieutenant Herbstler all attached to the Embassy, for the staff of late times has assumed quite abnormal proportions owing to the enormous amount of work arising from circumstances connected with the war.

The American officers.

Mr. Harold B. Quarton, deputy Consul General was there, and of the American Military Mission Captain Shartle accompanied by a very popular wife; Captain Kuhn, Captain S. D. Rockenbach, Major C. P. Johnson, Major A. C. Williams and Major Albrecht. There was Mr. Paxton Hibben, who himself was formerly attached to the American Embassy here, and who is, for the time being, acting as secretary to Senator Beveridge. Mr. Paxton Hibben denies that the Senator has been spirited away mysteriously, as some people assert, but that he is thoroughly well and fit and is still in Berlin, in spite of his never being at home when called upon.

There was Mrs. Reed Rogers, who lives in the Esplanade. Mr. and Mrs. William Alton Derrick, and journalistic big wigs were represented by Mr. Conger of the Associated Press and Mr. Karl v. Wiegand, who between them represent almost all the newspapers published in the United States and have both been doing brilliant work of late. There was Mr. L. Fox, a distinguished American Magazine writer; Mr. Guenther Thomas, and Mr. James O'Donnell Bennett, who has done such yeoman service in telling the truth about Germany and the war.

They are doing good work.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Mayer were present. He has been helping in substantial manner the American toy distribution and Mrs. Jacques Mayer is President of the American ladies relief Committee. I caught sight of Mr. Dunn, of the New York Evening Post, one of the few papers which has been Pro German from the first, although the others are now all coming round, since the truth is beginning to be known.

Also Mr. Cyril Brown, of the New York Times. Mr. Lawrence Hopkins dropped in and told that he was off tomorrow for New York, from Rotterdam, whence steamers have again begun running.

Others present were Mrs. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Meeker, Mrs. and Miss Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick King, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Wark, Mrs. Zimmermann, Mrs. Otto and the Misses Sutro, Mr. H. Hough Bassett, Dr. and Mrs. Cleves-Symmes, Mr. and Mrs. McClellan, Mr. Foster, McClellan, Mr. Alfred Dennis, Mr. and Mrs. Fergusson, Mr. Huff, the Misses Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whitmore Eustis, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Grosse, Mrs. Mac L. Yennings, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur van Eweyk, Dr. and Mrs. Kennedy, Dr. and Mrs. George Martin, Mrs. Phipps Miller, Mrs. C. Murphy and daughter, Miss Agnes Kerr, Mrs. Stromer, Mr. and Mrs. Segno, Mrs. and Miss Wright, Miss Barber, Mrs. Emily P. Coard, Mr. and Mrs. William C. Dreher, Dr. and Mrs. E. E. Elliott, Dr. and Mrs. Roy MacElwee, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Osborne, Mr. Milton Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Powers.

Berlin Notes.

Notwithstanding the war Americans are to be seen about. The sphynx-like Senator Beveridge.

Brilliant weather for the past few days has cheered up the hearts of all and above all because there exists the belief that this dry cold weather will stimulate the progress of the war, so as to curtail its wearisome length. If we are to believe the self-appointed military experts one meets so often, the Russians have resolved to give up digging trenches, on account of the hardness of the ground, and have decided upon a big and decisive fight in the open. "Our Hindenburg" is reported to be delighted at the prospect. All he wants, it is said, is a good up and down straightforward fight in the open.

The American officers are still at the Adlon hotel, but I understand they will soon receive an invitation to go to the front.

The shy Senator.

Senator Beveridge is at the Adlon. He lives the life a sphynx, carefully protected from all would-be visitors by his trusty secretary Mr. Paxton Hibben. According to Mr. Hibben, the Senator is so busy that he has not a moment to spare at any time of the day or night. Further the Senator does not know what he is about to do from minute to minute, nor where he is going to when he leaves Berlin. He does not know whether he is going to Vienna or Petersburg, but the Senator will be sure and telephone when he knows anything. In fact Senator Beveridge is a mystery of mysteries, prompted to secretiveness owing to his purely Scotch extraction, of which blood strain he is very proud.

Buyers arriving.

Americans are coming along, not in the usual numbers, yet there are a fair sprinkling of buyers. An interesting visitor of late has been Mr. Ernest G. Hothorn of New-York, representing the important business of Hagelstein and Co. of N. Y., one of the large copper firms of the United States. I had the opportunity of having a brief talk with Mr. Hothorn, which turned upon the subject of sentiment in the United States as regards this country. Mr. Hothorn considers that, so far, public sentiment in the United States has not been properly brought to bear upon the subject of Germany and the war. He does not believe that sentiment in the United States can be influenced by sending men over there to make speeches. "They are tired of talk in the United States" said Mr. Hothorn, "they won't listen to talk. But what is wanted is a little organisation of the influences which might be brought to bear upon the controlling powers." As far as I can make out Mr. Hothorn himself would be the most suitable man to undertake to restore American opinion re Germany, into the groove, whence it fell out of, so deplorably, some months ago. He has also strongly pronounced views upon how American supplies of war to the Allies might possibly be stopped. But that is not for publication. Mr. Hothorn, besides being a well known business man, is an accomplished writer and his contributions to the Boston News, Bureau, Wall Street Journal, New York Times Sun etc. etc., invariably attract attention.

At the Adlon have been Messrs. Rose and Bicknell, prominent members of the Rockefeller institute. They have, I understand, been distributing money to the destitute in Belgium and, since then, have been finding out details of destitution in the Baltic Provinces.

At the Bristol, several Americans have arrived. Amongst them Mr. H. W. Suydam of New-York, Mr. Orlando Weber, Captain Hersman, of N. V. and Mr. Eric Wood, United-States Courier.

Dr. Magin has returned from Vienna to the Bristol and Mrs. Kinzelmann was seen there on a flying visit, coming from Dresden and has returned thither.

Berlin Theatres.

At the Deutsches Opernhaus, last night Richard Wagner's "Siegfried", was performed for the first time this season. A numerous audience was in attendance to abandon itself to the wonderful "far-from-the-madding crowd" magic of the immortal music drama.

With such celebrities as Heinrich Hensel, Friedrich Plaszke and Eva von der Osten in some of the leading parts a production of high artistic merits was vouchsafed and the promise was amply fulfilled.

Grand Hotel Baglioni
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Vienna's Stage.

Takes times as they are and the theatres cater according to diminished incomes.

Vienna, Sunday.—People are not so rich as usual just now, on account of the war. So, the theatre owners, who generally know quite well how to judge the public pulse, have one and all lowered their prices. It is the same I believe with you in Berlin. The idea, is, that it is better to give employment to the artists at diminished salaries, than to close the doors of the theatres and consequently put a great number of people out of employment altogether. The result is excellent and good houses are the rule. There are those who think that, even after the war is over, reduced prices may continue. But I think not! There is talk of abolishing the "Star". How can you abolish the "star" any more than you can abolish the "crack" jockey, the high paid tenor or any other genius.

Even the Burg Theater has lowered its prices and with satisfactory results. There Lessings "Nathan der Weise" is being prepared for production, newly staged and with a fresh cast. After Lessing there comes the turn of Gerhart Hauptmann, with "Bogen des Odysseus".

In the Deutschen Volkstheater, the premiere of "Herthas Hochzeit", was produced with much success and on Saturday there was produced, at the Theater an der Wien, a new opera by Winterberg "Die Schöne Schwedin", which was well received. At the Volksoper the week has seen the production of Karl Weis' "Der Polnische Jude." At the Neuer Wiener Stadt-Theater Hermann Bahrs "Der Muntere Seifensieder," a military piece referring to the times of the German mobilisation has been produced it is amusing and well suited to the laughter loving Vienna audience.

The Spirit of True Neutrality.

What the Prayer for Peace of the American People Should Really Mean. A Contribution to the Protest against the Sale of War Material.

We pray to-day for restraint that as a nation we may know God's hour; and, taking it at its flood, may be led by Him to lead the world into the ways of an enduring and worthy world peace.

And surely part of our prayer for restraint is, that as a people God will keep our hands clean in the use we make of the war. These are our brothers. If we are to be used of God at the right moment to intervene for Peace, we must see to it that there is no just suspicion of a neutrality maintained from sordid motives. We are called upon in a measure to care for the commerce of the world. And we must strive to enter into the opportunity justly thus afforded. We must as a wise people correct those evils in navigation and commerce that have hindered our own development. The war "stabbed us broad awake" to many domestic wrongs, and antiquated customs outworn and inadequate. With clear vision we must correct these and set our commercial house to rights while the light is given. But we must not as a nation say, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," and strive in unfraternal ways to profit by our brothers' misfortune. And let us put down with wrath the evil spirits worse than starving ghouls in the battle's wake who use the war as pretext to make it harder for the many to live.

We must prove to the nations that ours is not a sinister neutrality. Let us pray, rather, that in this hour the soul of America may at last be revealed. Then the peoples of the earth will understand that ours is the warfare of peace, the warfare for freedom, for the rights of men, for generous rivalry in expanding opportunity. They will see that it is our dedication to the principle of human rights that makes us disinterested.

As a nation we believe in the right to live and grow according to an inner and divine destiny of all sorts of races and peoples. We do not desire to Americanize the world. We believe in variety in unity; in diversity of life within one spirit of freedom and love. This principle accounts for our open-door policy in China, for our restoration of Cuba to the people of the Island, for our promise to the Philippines for our method of dealing with Mexico. To fight for one's own rights is to be strong. To fight for the rights of others is to be invincible. Let us ask God, then, to keep us as a people on this high level of disinterested faith in the right of every people to "life liberty and the pursuit of happiness," to the end that when the hour shall strike the nations will trust us; for they will know, as our President has said, that "America puts human rights above all others and her flag is not only the flag of America, but the flag of humanity."

Who said Rats?

The British naval attack upon the German squadron not a success.

In spite of big odds.

Yet the English ships did not dare to close quarters, and withdrew from the contest.

How it is that the English fleet which three days ago came into action with a German squadron of much smaller, say a third its size, did not blow the latter to pieces, is a matter which has been much discussed.

The Blücher was sunk, a fact immediately admitted by the German admiralty which has never concealed its losses, as is the habit with the English, who, up to today, have not openly admitted the authenticated sinking of the Audacious, one of her new quite modern line of battle ships, 27,000 tons displacement. In return, the Lion, one of the big 30,000 tons, armored cruisers, received a shell below the waterline and had to be towed, whilst three English torpedo boats were sunk and, witnesses from the torpedo boats from the Moltke and an aeroplane, all unite in testifying to having seen an English warship, which had been left in the rear of the others, sunk. She had already a strong list and the final coup which sank her was a skillfully directed torpedo. In well informed circles here, the sinking of one of the British warships is accepted as an undoubted fact. We must take it also, that, hit beneath the water line, the repairing of such a mighty ship as the Lion, will take a long time.

A comparison.

The following table of the respective forces, will show, at a glance, the enormous superiority of the British squadron, over the German, in tonnage, speed, and artillery, which taken all together ought to have made the fight a quite unequal contest.

British.				
	Tonnage	Big guns	Speed	
Tiger	30,000	8—34.3	30	Knots,
Lion	30,000	8—34.3	30	"
Princess Royal	30,000	8—34.3	28.5	"
Indomitable . .	20,300	8—30.5	26.1	"
New Zealand . .	19,500	8—30.5	26.9	"

129,800 tons.

German.				
	Tonnage	Big guns	Speed	
Derfflinger . .	26,000	8—30	?	Knots,
Seydlitz	25,000	10—28	28.1	"
Moltke	23,000	10—28	28.4	"
Bluecher	15,800	12—21	25.8	"

89,800 tons.

It will be noted from the above table that the English had a supremacy of 40,000 tons of warships to their credit, to begin with; that they had twentyfour 38.3c and 30.5 big guns, as against 8.30 centimeter guns 20.28 centimeter and twelve 21 centimeter guns. In addition to that all the best of the speed.

A four hours fight.

Therefore, how it was that the British fleet, failed to account for more than one of the German warships, and did not annihilate the comparatively small force opposed to her great array of strength, is difficult to understand. If, as it is positively asserted in what is termed, "well informed circles" one of the English cruisers was sunk, why it is a brilliant victory for the German navy. And, even, if not so, the contest remains as one of the finest feats of modern naval warfare. That the so inferior force should have been able for four hours to stand up against such overwhelming weight of ships and guns, and come out of it with only the loss of the Blücher, the oldest and smallest of the squadron, doomed on account of her poor turn of speed and the weakness of her artillery is wondrous, and, it took the English artillery no less than two hours and 37 minutes to sink her, and she went down firing final shots from her after turrets, the Blücher.

The English appear to have acted with an amount of caution which demonstrated clearly a profound respect for the German navy. It is told that at the beginning of the engagement the English fired at a distance of twenty kilometres, they never allowed themselves to approach nearer than 15 kilometres.

The rats.

Mr. Churchill had used the insulting term, concerning the German navy "We will draw the rats out of their holes!", but in this case the German ships were out in the broad seas and the British ships showed none of the desire to "Draw the rats." On the contrary they displayed such inordinate fear of "the rats," that they kept far away from them, and it was the English who finally retired, their lines having taken an irregular form which appeared to denote that there were serious machinery defects upon several of their fighting units.

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DRESDNER BANK

Capital, fully paid: M. 200 000 000.
Reserve Fund: M. 61 000 000.

Branch Offices in Berlin and Suburbs:

* A. Französischestr. 35/36.
* B. Potsdamerstr. 126.
* C. Königsstr. 33.
* D. Oranienstr. 145/146.
* E. Kurfürstendamm 238.
* F. Am Spittelmarkt 4/7.
* G. Lindenstr. 7.
* H. Grosse Frankfurterstr. 32.
* I. Charlottenburg, Berlinerstr. 58.
* J. Potsdamerstr. 103 a.
* K. Chausseestr. 128/129.
* L. An der Janowitzerbrücke 1.
* M. Schöneberg, Hauptstr. 18.
* N. Moabit, Turmstr. 27.
* O. Schöneberg, Motzstr. 66.
* P. Brunnenstr. 2.
* Q. Brunnstr. 35/36.

* R. Friedenau, Süd-West-Korso 77.
* S. Mühlentstr. 6.
* T. Landsbergerstr. 100.
* U. Kurfürstendamm 181.
* V. Steglitz, Schlossstr. 85.
* W. Gr. Lichterfelde-Ost, Jungfernstieg 3.
* X. Schönhauser Allee 14 a.
* Y. Friedenau, Rheinstr. 1/2.
* Z. Greifswalderstr. 205.
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* E II. Tempelhof, Berlinerstr. 8.
* F II. Neukölln, Kottbuserdamm 70.
* G II. Schöneberg, Barbarossastr. 45.
* H II. Wilmersdorf, Hohenzollernstr. 190.
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