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The Continental Times

Special War Edition

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No. 1034. Vol. XX. No. 42.

BERLIN, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1914.

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Antwerp before the Fall.

Antwerp in Flames.

The Germans have during the last few days gained such advantage over the Belgian and English troops that they were able to direct the fire of their heavy mortars on Antwerp itself. The town is burning in several places and the terrified population flees across the Dutch frontier. The Commander will not be able to hold the town for long. He might only try to provide for the escape of the Army.

The largest Battle to Come.

The Russian forces have now taken position with their centre along the Vistula in Poland, their right wing near East Prussia, their left wing in Galicia. According to English reports the Russians number about 100 divisions, the allied German and Austrian Armies 88 divisions. In the battle, which may start at any moment there will be about 2 1/2 million men fighting against each other.

Will Portugal fight?

It is reported that under the pressure of the British Government Portugal will declare war on Germany. There is every probability for England's action being influenced by Ex-king Manoel, who wants to take this chance of re-establishing himself again on the Portuguese Throne. Though what Portugal has to win by a war is difficult to understand. She cannot burden herself with more Colonies. Is it Money?

Holland's Neutrality.

His Excellency Rudolph von Rappard, the Dutch Ambassador in Washington, declared that his Government's intention was to strictly remain neutral. Holland has mobilized 300,000 men of her Army for the defence of her frontiers. The Ambassador declared all reports of breaches of Dutch neutrality by German troops for untrue. No German soldier has during the advance of the German Armies touched Dutch soil. The German respect for Dutch neutrality went so far that new roads have been laid through swampy districts, as His Excellency himself had occasion to observe. The Ambassador further expressed his fear of the war becoming a long drawn-out struggle.

English Reports of French Atrocities.

English papers have been filled lately with stories of alleged atrocities committed by Germans. The London "Globe" at least publishes reports also of deeds of barbarism by the allied black troops of France. The war correspondent of the "Globe" has met a Senegalese rifleman, who wore a necklet of ears, cut off the heads of German soldiers. Another Senegalese showed the blood-covered head of a German Ulan. A Turco was put with 4 wounded Germans in a compartment of a Red Cross train. When the surgeon in command looked through the window some time afterwards, the savage had strangled the four Germans. Will moral England protest against such atrocities, which are proved by an Englishman?

Dr. Sven Hedin at the Front.

Dr. Sven Hedin, the famous explorer stays as guest of the Kaiser at the Headquarters of the German Armies in the West. Dr. Hedin has received permission to inquire into all reported cases of "German atrocities" and to write impartial reports on the military situation.

The assassin-major Tancosic.

Major Tancosic, who was one of the originators of the plot against Archduke Francis Ferdinand has taken part at the head of a band of Komitajis in the fighting along the Drina; he was killed by a bullet in the same battle, in which Prince George of Serbia was wounded.

The Catholic Albanians for Austria.

In spite of the cutting off of the Austrian News Service, the Catholic Albanians side with Austria and her German Ally. Divine Service is held in the churches, at which prayers are offered and Holy Communion taken for the victory of the Austrian troops.

English Women praise Treatment in Germany.

About 400 English, Australian, Canadian and South-African women and girls, who returned to England testify the polite and civil treatment they have met with during their seven weeks involuntary stay in Germany. They especially acknowledge the friendly advice and help given by the American Ambassador in Berlin.

Wilson's Answer to the German Emperor.

President Wilson's answer to the German Emperor's telegram has now been published. The President says:

I have received Your Imperial Majesty's important communication of September, 7th and have read it with greatest interest and sympathy. I feel honoured by your resolve to turn to me as the representative of a nation, which is truly disinterested in this war, but has the ardent desire to know and to consider the truth.

You will, I am sure, not expect me to say more. I pray to God that this war may be finished soon. The day of reckoning will come—as I am sure—when the nations of Europe will meet to end their feud. Where wrong has been done, the consequences will not fail to come and the guilty will have to bear the responsibility. Happily, the nations of the world have agreed that such reckoning must take place. As far as such plan is not fully sufficient, the opinion of mankind, the last tribunal for all such things, will step in. It would be unwise, it would be too rash for a single Government, even if they should be in the favourable position of standing afar from this present struggle—it would even be not in accordance with the neutral position of a nation, which as this one does not participate in the war, to form a definite judgment now or to express it.

I am speaking frankly, because I know you expect me and desire me to speak as a friend to a friend and because I am sure that a reservation of judgment until the end of the war, when all events and circumstances in their full light and in their true relation may be seen, will recommend itself to you as the true expression of honest neutrality. (signed) Woodrow Wilson.

Eleanor Spencer's Views.

Miss Eleanor Spencer, the well-known American artist in New York, says about the war:

"I am shocked at the attitude of the American newspapers towards Germany. As you know I lived in Germany continuously for ten years, and I think I have come to know the German people pretty well. They have always been peace-loving, and their armament for many years was due alone to their position geographically. The Germans did not want war. But the spirit of defending the Fatherland has arisen and now they will fight to the last to keep intact the German Unity established by Bismarck. Perhaps when we get the real facts of the struggle there will be a more generous and sympathetic attitude shown by our newspapers."

Americas Advice to England.

American business men have been extremely annoyed about the way, in which England dealt with neutral shipping. A friendly hint is given in the New York "World" which says, it would be a good policy on England's part to stop capturing neutral ships near the American 3-mile limit, sometimes so near that English officers are really within that limit. The practice of arresting passengers, going to New York, under the pretence, they might try to find a chance for returning to Germany from the United States, is also condemned. It has become known that this article was inspired from Washington, as the American Government would not like to take diplomatic steps in London for this reason.

160,000 Japanese to help the Entente Powers.

Official reports have been received in New York, according to which 40,000 Japanese have been landed at Danij on the Yellow Sea waiting to be transported to the German and Austrian frontiers via Siberia. 20,000 men are on the way to India to take the place of Indian troops which have been sent to France. They may also be used against Turkey, if this State should join Germany and Austria. Another 100,000 Japanese are held in readiness to be used partly in Russia and partly in France.

American Red Cross Missions in the Field.

30 Surgeons and 120 Nurses have arrived from New-York to work in 5 detachments with the German, French, Belgian, English and Russian Armies during the war. All Surgeons are officers of the American Army.

Splendid Flight of Austrian Airman.

An Austrian officer with passenger made a flight from Headquarters to the fortress of Przemyśl, which is closed in by the Russians. When nearing the Russian lines, the aeroplane came under shrapnel fire from the Russian batteries and the planes were pierced in three places. The officers, however succeeded in reaching Przemyśl where they had to land in an extremely steep angle. The return-flight was even more dangerous, as the small space available for getting up, was in the Russian fire-zone. The aeroplane was hit by eight pieces of shrapnel. After passing the Russian lines, a snow-storm drove the machine several times out of its course and as a last accident the benzine-tube broke and had to be closed by the passenger with his hand. The return-journey took 4 hours to accomplish.

A comparison.

In the financial periodical "Bankarchiv" Dr. Helfferich, Director of the Deutsche Bank, has a few interesting things to say regarding the 4 1/2 milliard marks of Imperial German War Loan subscribed: "The 4 1/2 milliard marks are a record amount of all financial transactions ever as yet carried out anywhere in the world, the previous record being been cosily held by the war contribution of 4 milliard marks levied on France (in 1871). The 4 milliard marks of the French war contribution took 2 1/2 years to collect, whereas the German war loan, which is bigger by 1/2 milliard will have been paid up by the German people in as many months. Furthermore France only had to find the 4 milliard after peace had been reestablished whereas the German war loan is issued in the thick of the war. To wind up, the subscription of the French 4 milliard was strongly supported by foreign countries, particularly by the English market, whereas the German 4 1/2 milliard marks represent the exclusive effort of the German people, an appeal to even neutral countries having been studiously avoided.

Talking of the present war only, Germany's enemies cannot show anything even remotely approaching the above feat. England has found so far 900 million marks. France in hoping to find money is meeting with great difficulties, negotiations with American Houses have failed and as yet a mere 40 million marks have been secured in England, while on the other hand the authorities could not make up their minds to issue an Internal Loan in view of the failure of the Issue of 800 million Francs of 3 1/2 % Rente floated just before the war. For a war lasting until the spring the German Empire's monetary needs are therefore covered, whereas in England the anxiety as to the finding of the financial means of war still lasts and in France such anxiety grows more serious every day. If the English Chancellor of the Exchequer with true British conceit has crowded that not the first but the last milliard—which of course is held by England!—would decide the war, he at any rate has to be satisfied that Germany leads to day by over three milliards and over 4 milliards, as compared with England and France respectively. Let England and France try to make up that lead. Next to that we shall be able to watch with equanimity who finds the putting up of any further necessary milliards the toughest job. The launch of our war loan has not been demonstrated to us by any one in the world, and neither will anyone find it easy to copy us.

So far Dr. Helfferich. If Germany's foes relied on any financial weakness on her part they have clearly made a grievous error.

America wants to develop her Shipping.

Mr. Howe, the Commissioner of Immigration, proposes in "The Journal of Commerce" the establishment of American Free Ports, to support the development of Foreign sea traffic. One of these ports should be situated in the Gulf, one in Panama and one or two on the Pacific Coast.

Notice to Americans.

The steamer "Red Cross" leaves Rotterdam for New York on October 12th. Thirty berths 1. class (300 to 400 Marks) may still be booked through the American Consulate-General, Friedrichstr. 61.

A German Official communication.

The Copenhagen paper "Nationaltidende" publishes the following observations by the Secretary of State of the German Foreign Office, Herr von Jagow, which are intended as a reply to the recently published conversation with the English Foreign Undersecretary of State Mr. Acland:

Undersecretary of State Acland asserts that England's intervention in the war is due to Germany having violated the neutrality of Belgium. I cannot think that high official of the Foreign Office should be unaware of the declaration by Sir E. Grey in his speech in the House of Commons on August 3d, that he had guaranteed to the French Ambassador on the previous afternoon already (viz. August 2nd.) the fullest support by the English fleet in the event of the German fleet acting against the French coast or French shipping, though Belgian neutrality was broken by German troops in the night from August 3rd. to 4th. only. Neither can the Undersecretary have forgotten that Sir E. Grey in his conversation with Prince Lichnowsky on August 1st expressly declined to let Germany have a guarantee of the neutrality of England upon the basis of Germany respecting Belgium's neutrality. So it is all just a fresh attempt, not even a particularly clever one, to mislead the world with regard to the motives at the bottom of English participation in the war. Those motives are not altruistic solicitude for the independence and integrity of Belgium. That integrity was not threatened. We expressly assured England of it. But it is palpable that a country which has built its colonial Empire upon the debris of other states, a country, which, as it did quite recently in Egypt, has frequently ignored promises and international treaties should not trust to such an assurance. As a German proverb has it: "One does not suspect others behind a bush, unless one has been behind it oneself!" That is how the booby of German troops laying hold on Antwerp turned up in the imagination of English politicians, and in just the same way as Sir E. Grey had promised English help to France in the event of Calais or Cherbourg being threatened by German troops, the fear that part of the South Channel might be torn from Belgium's weakly hands and become a basis of operations for the German fleet caused England not only to join in the war, but to commit the fearful crime of encouraging poor Belgium to resist the German entry. So the attitude of England has solely been caused by the unscrupled English egotism, which is responsible for the whole terrible war. If to-day on the battle fields of the Continent the sons of Germany, Austria, France and Russia must give their blood for their countries, the moral responsibility for it all rests first and foremost with the English line of politics, which by relying on the formula of the preservation of the European balance kept on encouraging the jingoistic currents in France and Russia against Germany and thereby conjured up a state of tension on the continent, which has seen its discharge in the present war. It has always been the English policy to set the Continental nations against each other, in order to be able herself to rule the world undisturbed.

Who are the Guilty Ones?

(Continuation.)

The "Matin" organised a prize contest for aviators to the German frontier, and emphasised that it wished to prepare the French aviators in this way for an attack on Germany. When the "Journal" wished to arrange for a competitive flight to Germany, and in connection with this, spoke strongly of its peaceable character, an unprecedented agitation started up against the proposal of the "Journal", the result of which was, that the flight was not undertaken. The "Journal" stated that it had received letters, in which there were threats that all aviators flying to Germany would be shot.

Whatever may be thought of Agadir and its sequels, the agitation of the "Matin" and that of Tardieu in the "Temps", which was more dangerous because carried on in a finer tone, preceded the Agadir affair. The agitation soon found a footing among the people; it became popular. Cool-headed persons were not wanting, but they were cried down. If they were anxious for their

political future; they kept their opinions to themselves. The fact that Caillaux had concluded the Congo treaty, and favoured coöperation with Germany, damaged him more than his income-tax bill. The extreme hate which pursued him affected the shrewd politician, who had seen that the salvation of France lay in a friendly relation to Germany. The heat rose to the boiling point, Millerand, as war minister, introduced the public military tattoo to arouse the warlike feeling of the populace. Every Saturday evening regimental bands, accompanied by soldiers carrying lanterns, paraded through the streets of Paris; before them marched an association of old and young simpletons, who called themselves the "friends of the tattoo", and who were accustomed at the close to do homage to the statue of the city of Strassburg. In almost all theatres chauvinistic pieces were produced; in all music halls and variety shows scenes were brought on and verses sung exhibiting hostility to Germany. I recall especially the "Servir" by Lavedan and the "Alsace" played by Rejane. The propaganda carried on by the Alsacians Wetterlé, Preiss and Hackspil through public speeches, and by Blumenthal, who constantly held in Paris, secret meetings with leading personages, was criminal; Herr Waltz, called Hansi (in France named: le bon oncle Hansi) mounted the first rounds of the ladder of fame in France, which has brought him this year, as is known, a prize from the French Academy. Then came the journey of the English and Russian generals to the Eastern frontier of France. The visit of the grand duke Nicholas Nicholajewitch and his duchess to Nancy was especially dilated upon in the newspapers. The roll which the grand duke played, as leader of the war party in Russia, is well known, and in this he has been ably seconded in France by his duchess. In the illustrated French journals and in the cinematograph theatres a picture was shown, in which the grand duchess was represented as standing on a height in Lorraine, waving a handkerchief towards the towers of Metz. In the nationalist-clerical "Echo de Paris" Herbetie, the nephew of the former ambassador, published his articles on foreign politics, which always closed with the words: "Germanism esse delenda n". The midday newspaper "Paris-Midi" exhibited a grotesque hatred towards Germany. This sheet belongs, with several others, to the above mentioned Bérenger, who became the proprietor of a number of newspapers—all of which, with the exception of "Paris-Midi", met with little success—only that he might be in the position to become "interested" for each one of his publications, when a Russian or other loan was to be placed on the market. The editor, a Belgian by the name of Karteuffel, who called himself however Maurice de Vaeffe, had demanded, several weeks before Jaures was assassinated, when the latter expressed himself at the socialist congress against the participation of the social democracy in a Franco-German war, that the socialist leader should be murdered. The "Echo de Paris", with Karteuffel and the extremely influential and privileged Tardieu, had the fear that a possible radical ministry could bring France to an understanding with Germany, a result which they dreaded, because it would put a stop to their Russian subsidies. They therefore fought such an idea most vehemently. The "danger" of an understanding with Germany was indeed no longer present, for the Lorraine Poincaré had in the meantime become the Premier. The intimate friends of Poincaré knew that his ambition was above all directed to bringing, by force of arms, Alsace-Lorraine again into the possession of France; it is no wonder that under his administration the influence of Iswolsky was yet more strongly noticeable. The Balkan war was politically and journalistically arranged for by Iswolsky and his French vassals, among the latter being especially Tardieu. One could read every evening in the "Temps" the articles of Tardieu which furnished its readers with the warmed-over lucubrations of Iswolsky. To be continued.

The Austrian Point of View.

We draw the attention of our readers to the back-page of to-days "Continental Times," which contains an article by Count Albert Apponyi, on this question, published by special permission.

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