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LATEST NEWS.

SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

Grey Ill.

London, May 18. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Grey is suffering from trouble with his eyes. He will have to take a rest. In the meanwhile Mr. Asquith will replace him.

For A Winter Campaign.

London, May 18. The *Manchester Guardian* states that Lord Kitchener has given the necessary orders for the preparations to be made for a winter campaign.

Losses of Allies.

Athens, May 18. In diplomatic circles here it is told that the Allies, in their attempts off the Bosphorus, have lost 15,000 dead and 20,000 wounded.

More Troops Wanted.

London, May 18. In the House of Lords Kitchener made a statement to the effect that he needed 300,000 more recruits wherewith to build up a new army.

Submarine Results.

London, May 18. Owing to the Submarine invasion, the price of meat has risen 70%, and other necessities in proportion. The tramway service throughout the capital has stopped.

Panic in Warsaw.

It is reported, by one who has recently come over the Russian frontier, that there exists a panic in Warsaw owing to the rumors of Russian defeats. There is a terrible shortage of coal in Petersburg.

Two Cruisers Sunk.

Athens, May 18. According to a communication to the government, from the Prefect of Mytilene, two English armored cruisers have run upon mines in the Dardanelles and been sunk.

Getting Critical.

London, May 18. The *Times* writes that from many points of view the campaign is becoming very critical for the Allies. The burden of England's partners is exceeding heavy.

Giant Airship.

London, May 18. The *Daily Chronicle* in a Geneva despatch announces that a new and giant airship is being built at the Friedrichshafen works. It is to carry a thousand kilos of explosives and to travel at a speed hitherto unequalled.

Russian Losses.

Vienna, May 18. The Chief of Staff reports that in the recent advance movement of the united armies, 174,000 prisoners have been taken, 128 cannon captured and 368 machine guns. The re-capture of Przemysl and Lemberg appears imminent.

Off Spanish Coast.

Hague, May 17. A despatch in the *Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant* announces that German submarine boats have been seen off the Spanish coast. An English ship, the *Helena*, laden with wheat from Argentina, is long overdue and is supposed to have been sunk.

Banished To Russia.

Vienna, May 18. As a result of the recent visit of the Tzar to Przemysl the Mayor and a great many of the notables of that city have been sent into exile in Russia. The reason was that they refused to welcome the Tzar as their new ruler.

Zeppelins Busy.

London, May 18. Zeppelins airships have been busy over Dover. Calais, Ramsgate, Broadstairs. English aeroplanists attacked seven at a time and claim to have damaged one of the airships. That however is denied by the Germans.

In Mesopotamia.

London, May 18. The *Morning Post* publishes a letter from an officer in Mesopotamia, in which he writes about a severe engagement which has taken place there, accompanied by heavy losses. He says that the enemy have been as an ocean and the English a drop of water in comparison.

British Losses.

Rotterdam, May 18. The casualty list of English officers on one day, the 11th of May, amount to 400, out of which 99 are dead. Losses of men were 1741. This is the severest casualty record so far published. In the past 16 days the loss in officers, from all causes, has been 2,100.

Minister Murdered.

Madrid, May 18. As the new President of the Portuguese Ministry Senhor Chagas stood in the Lisbon Station; having just come from Oporto; he was approached by Senator Freitas who after speaking a few words took out a revolver and shot the Minister. Senator Freitas was cut down by the police and killed. The Minister President was taken away in a dying condition.

ITALY'S FOLLY.

Entering Recklessly Upon a War for no Reason. Neither Flag, Honor nor Fatherland Menaced.

A TERRIBLE RESPONSIBILITY.

Role Played by Ambassador Barrère. A Big Budget for Press Purposes. What Italian Press Has to Say.

Italy, for no possible logical reason that can be imagined, appears decided to allow herself to be drawn into the vortex of the great war. As though that war were not terrible enough without adding another combatant. In so doing Italy takes a terrible responsibility. Her fighting forces are small, her finances in poor condition, the position of the King precarious, and already, before war has been declared, there exists throughout the country a shortage of cereals and coal.

When the innermost situation of Italy is examined, the fact that the Government should wish to break neutrality appears all the more incredible. It is known that every workingman's organization throughout the country has protested against the war. That those protests have been carefully concealed by an active censorship does not make them any the less important. It was well known that over 300 out of five hundred or so of deputies are against the war and that they are headed by the first politician in the land, Giolitti. Nevertheless the masses of the people and the majority of the political good sense of the country, which condemns the war, appears to be helpless in the face of a noisy minority which parades the streets, convokes meetings, makes speeches, abuses violently all its opponents, and appears to terrorise the entire land. Italy today seems to be ruled by mob law, she reminds one of France at the time of the Commune. And the mob calls for "War or Revolution." Italy appears to be seeking all the troubles that can fall to the lot of any nation.

SOLD FOR CASH.

But, of course, there must be a reason for the apparently impossible and — one might add — insane impulse which is forcing Italy into war without any outwardly apparent reason. To go to war for nothing is such a criminal proceeding that there must be some other than natural forces at work somewhere, when a country like Italy takes such a reckless and ruinous course. And it is, as might be expected, to be found in the efforts of the Allies. Defeated on all sides, Russia, France and England, in their despair, have tried to draw into this war every other country in the world, not excluding America, Roumania, Greece, the Scandinavian Kingdoms, Portugal have all been offered tempting inducements to break their neutrality, but have remained firm in their desire for peace. But Italy, after long resistance, has given way. There a road was found, it was one which had to be paved with gold.

THE GOLDEN PILL.

It is a well-known fact to those living in Rome, and who are behind the political scenes, that the French Ambassador M. Camille Barrère has, for a long while past, been placed by his government in possession of almost unlimited sums of money, the same to be devoted to winning over opinion in Italy in favor of a breach of neutrality, for the benefit of the Allies. The Ambassador's budget, for such purposes, has reached as high as five millions of francs per month. With such sums at his disposal, it has not been very difficult for M. Barrère to buy the voice of a press which has always been easily purchasable. Once the press had been bought, the rest was easy. Public opinion of the kind which is now master of the situation can be easily purchased, just as the claue is paid for in the Italian theatre. In the same manner, by Payment, D'Annunzio the impetuous and erstwhile bankrupt author, was brought on to the scene with a great beating of drums by an already subsidised press.

The *Avanti* and the *Stampa* are for neutrality, and the latter publishes a highly common sense Editorial written by its owner, Senator Frassati, in which the war-instigators are reproved. He says: "There was talk of Italy going into the war in September. Had she been drawn in then, by now she would have bled and achieved nothing. Is the position in any way changed now? Upon what grounds can Italy be asked to come into the war today? The military situation is just the same as six months ago, and so it is exceedingly much to the advantage of those against whom the war wishers seek to set us. The situation of the Central powers has much improved of late in the Carpathians. When, where and from whom has our flag been in any way insulted? When, where and by whom are the interests of our

fatherland threatened? Had the Russian avalanche overwhelmed Austro-Hungary as promised, we should have been faced with a national problem. But it has not. Lord Kitchener's army has fought bravely, but it cannot free France. The undertaking of the Dardanelles becomes each day more difficult. No! the life and destinies of a nation should not be hasarded lightly in the manner one sets a piece of money on a number at Monte Carlo. We love our Fatherland too much. We love it too warmly to take the responsibility of bringing the country into war, when neither her interests nor honor are at stake."

American Opinion on Italy.

Professor John W. Burgess of Columbia University Cannot Believe that Italy Could Act Against her Treaty Allies.

New York, May 18. Professor John W. Burgess, of Columbia University, in an open letter to the *New York Times*, expresses his utter astonishment that Italy can think, at such a moment as this, of deserting her Allies, whom she is solemnly pledged to assist in case of need. He says:—"The real reason for Italy remaining neutral in this contest was that England was taking part in the war. If Great Britain had remained neutral the war would have been over months ago. If England had not come in, I think Italy would surely have supported her Allies. Italy was frightened by England's sea power, which could have wrested her Tripolitan colonies from her. All that is easy to understand. But should Italy quit that neutral territory and join in with England, France and Russia against her allies, that would constitute a method of dealing of such deep and eternally damnable shame, that I cannot believe it possible until it has actually taken place. Italy may have had differences with Austria, but this is not the moment for an honorable ally, to seek a solution of the same in such a traitorous manner.

I can clearly grasp the advantages which Italy would gain, by an honorable support of her Allies at the present time and remaining neutral; but I can see nothing of advantage to Italy should she take a contrary course, it can only bring her dishonor and disdain. I have not an over high estimation of the discernment of the leading statesmen of Italy, but matters as they stand here, are so clear, that I must draw their attention to them.

In the Reichstag.

In the Reichstag yesterday, the Imperial Chancellor addressed the House upon the subject of relations with Italy. His Excellency told the expectant Members of the large concessions which Austro-Hungary had offered to make to Italy in the interests of peace and then referred to the speech of Count Tisza, which had proved that all possible concessions had been made.

At the conclusion of a speech marked by its brevity, the Chancellor said:—"I still cherish a hope that in the scales peace will be found to weigh heavier than war. Whichever way Italy shall decide, we, in conjunction with Austro-Hungary, have done everything possible to maintain those good relations, so ingrained in the German people, which have brought so much profit to the three countries. Should the agreement be torn asunder by the one partner, we shall know full well, with the other, how to meet the new danger with confidence and courage." The closing words of the Chancellor were met with great applause throughout the Parliament.

Latest Symptoms.

Diplomatic Relations Still Continue, but Situation Appears Hopeless. Comments from Various Sides.

Rome, May 18. Turin forms the headquarters of the opponents of the war. A state of siege has been proclaimed there. Grave disturbances have taken place and 80,000 workmen declared a general strike as protest against the war. On the other hand the students attacked the offices of the neutralist organ *Stampa*, broke some windows and did other damage. Barricades were run up in the streets and shooting took place. Mass meetings were held to protest against the war. There were many casualties.

Both Prince Bülow and Baron Macchio had interviews with the Minister of Foreign Affairs Sonnino, so that diplomatic relations are not yet broken off. There are those even, who profess to see an amelioration in the situation and a possibility that, on Thursday, no absolute decision will be taken. There seems to be small justification for such hopes.

In the *Popolo Romano* there appears a remarkable article by Commander Bonamico of Florence. That officer states that Germany stands so secure in the West and East that she can spare a number of army corps for unexpected necessities. The position of Austria has very much improved and will continue improving. England's position is not clear, but an offensive movement by her forces does not seem possible. France does not appear to have confidence in herself and seeks help from all directions. Russia is prostrate in the Balkans a policy of observation is the rule, and the Dardanelles question remains stationary. Italy will scarce be able to take part in the joint military operations. The attack of the enemy is likely to be made with lightning rapidity on the Po and who knows where after that. Even a brief occupation would leave the country devastated and it is quite possible that the enemy would occupy Venice and Lombardy, which might remain in their possession.

IN PARLIAMENT.

The Parliament will meet on Thursday at 2 P. M. The Government will call for full powers to be given to the King. Three new ministers will be announced, Bissolati, representing the Reform Socialists; Barzilari, for the Republicans and Fera, for the Radicals. Turati, in the name of the Socialists will oppose the war and the granting of the money for its expenses.

WAR DECIDED UPON.

There now on longer seems the slightest doubt, but that war has been decided upon. Yesterday there were great war demonstrations in Rome and the Mayor Prince Colonna made a chauvinistic speech to open proceedings and D'Annunzio closed with a stirring war tirade. At the termination the bells of the Capitol rang out, an event of the utmost rarity. The whole town seemed to be permeated with the spirit and the wish for war.

The *Giornale d'Italia* writes:—"War is already virtually declared by the joint will of the King, the government and the nation. The suppressed flame which has burnt for half a century in the heart of Italy, has now burst into fire. The dream has become a reality and appears in an outburst of striking truth, in songs and flags and light and flowers." Such a statement, from the official government organ, leaves no doubts.

The Dardanelles.

The Turks Claim to have Beaten the Allied Forces Wherever they have Landed.

Constantinople, May 18. A report published by the Reuter Agency, to the effect that the Turks had been surrounded and a great number of them killed, is false. On the contrary the Allied forces wherever they have landed, have been badly beaten and they now only occupy fringes of the coast and dare not venture away from the protection of their ships guns. At Sedul Bar the English forces are being constantly decimated by our fire. The largely superior Turkish forces hold them completely.

At Ari Burnu the enemy has advanced for about half a kilometer. Large numbers of Turkish troops almost surround the landing force. On the 15th, in a landing attempt the enemy lost 1,500 men, principally Australians. The landing stages and magazines recently erected, have been destroyed by the Turkish fire.

Churchill's Responsibility.

London, May 18. At last the truth about Winston Churchill's responsibility in the Dardanelles expedition is out. In the House of Commons Mr. Joynson-Hicks asked the First Lord of the Admiralty whether Lord Fisher, in the course of the consultation regarding the March attack on the Dardanelles, expressed the view that it would be wiser to wait for the co-operation of a military force; and, if so, who overruled such advice.

Mr. Churchill.—I am sure this House will not approve of this kind of question, which is calculated to be detrimental to public interests of serious importance. The unity and integrity of the Board of Admiralty ought not in time of war to be impugned by any member.

The American Note.

Ambassador Judge Gerard Hands in a Lengthy Document to the Foreign Office. United States and her Citizens, it is courteous and Friendly in Tone.

The latest American note, concerning the loss of the *Lusitania*, has been handed in by Ambassador Judge Gerard to the German Foreign Office. It is a long document and tells of the growing anxiety with which the government of the United States views the sinking of American ships and the loss of life of American citizens. It refers to the loss of the *Falaba*, *Gullflight* and finally the *Lusitania*. It claims that Americans should be free to travel wherever they please without risk to life. The United States government does not wish to accept the principle of the war zone, as laid down by Germany. It claims that Americans have the right to navigate anywhere where their trade or business may necessitate. It urges that the commanders of submarines should take all measures to avoid sacrifice of innocent life. Also that compensation cannot be accepted as sufficient reparation or excuse for the destruction of American life and property. The note is dictated in courteous terms and not in any way of an unfriendly nature; but more as a document wherein the writer has sought to persuade Germany to relax the Submarine invasion of British waters. It is moreover not a note which will give the German government any difficulties in making explanation and reply.

Cant Do Without Them.

Baron Schröder was a Necessity for the Credit of the City of London. Loss to England.

London, May 18. In the debate in the House of Commons on the interning of Germans, Mr. Holt (L., Hexham) pointed out that if all these aliens were interned it would involve an expense to the country of some two or three millions a year, in addition to which the country would lose the labour of many men at a time when the work of every man was wanted. He hoped that the Government would not intern a single person whom they believed could safely be left at large.

Mr. Joynson-Hicks (U., Brentford) said that he was unable to join in the paean of praise of the Government. They had yielded to clamour.

Sir A. Markham (L., Mansfield Division) said that in the grant of naturalisation a discrimination was made in favour of rich and high-placed Germans.

Mr. Asquith said the hon. member must not say that.

Sir A. Markham.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated in one case that neutralisation was allowed for financial reasons.

Mr. McKenna.—Not for the benefit of Baron Schröder, but for the benefit of the credit of the City of London.

Sir A. Markham.—I did not know that the credit of the City of London rested upon a naturalised alien (hear, hear). He contended, further, that all M.P.'s of German parentage ought not to be allowed to sit in the House, and that every German-born person should be removed from the Privy Council (hear, hear).

Rebellion In India.

Stated that English Have Given up Sending more Indian Troops to Europe. The Sentiment of Unrest.

Hague, May 18th. From letters which have reached here from Central India it is stated that in the middle of April the situation in India was very serious and that the Indian regiments were mutinying against being sent to Europe to fight, they having knowledge that their comrades had been placed in the front lines on all occasions possible and the English themselves taking safer positions. It is not supposed that any more Indian troops will be shipped during the present war. The English evidently fear a rebellion.

Lax Young Men.

London, May 18. In the House of Commons Mr. Fell asked the Home Secretary if he could state the number of men of military age who are now engaged in the chorus of the theatres and music-halls of the Metropolis at the present time; and if, in view of the effect of the presence of a large number of young men who should be serving their country being exhibited nightly on other young men in the audience, he proposed to take any steps in the matter.

Mr. Harmsworth replied.—The inquiry which is being made as to the number of men who can be spared for enlistment from the several industries has not yet reached the theatrical profession, where the numbers are comparatively small; but I will consider what steps can be taken in the matter.

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ITALY WISHES WAR.

It is quite evident that Italy insists upon breaking her neutrality and making war. Anything more incomprehensible than the action of the Italian government, which has brought about such a condition of affairs, it would be impossible to imagine. Italy had won enormous concessions from Austria, without staking a blow. And now she renounces all for the precarious prospects of a possible happy conclusion to a war which she so wantonly provokes. The position of Italy is now of the worst. She stands convicted of duplicity and treachery to her Allies. The plea for concessions was a farce. What she wanted was war. France and England, themselves in the quicksands of failure, have dragged in Italy after them, by means of grand promises unlikely ever to be realised. Italy fatally appears, to be another country destined to be ruined by the falsity of English and French policy. Her position, from the strategical point of view, is exceedingly vulnerable; large military forces are already concentrated on her frontier. And with all that, the Italian politicians go as recklessly into this gamble of the existence of their country, as a gambler stakes his last piece upon the roulette table of Monte Carlo. Poor and deluded Italy!

HYPOCRISY UNLIMITED.

The *Daily Mail*, as everyone knows who has followed the events leading up to the present war, was the one paper in Great Britain which did everything in its power to bring about the present war. It sent a Special Correspondent, an American of the school of Yellow Journalism, to Berlin to work up an anti-German campaign from here, by poisoning the minds of the readers of the Northcliffe organ with lies, broad shameful lies, concerning the intentions and feelings of Germany towards England. How thoroughly that Correspondent carried out the malignant task confided to him, is a matter of notoriety. Most people have read the terrific indictment of Lord Northcliffe by the Editor of *The Daily News*, Mr. Gardiner; in which the proprietor of the *Daily Mail* was held up to the execration of the British nation, as the man who, in order to sell his paper, had done everything in the world that a human being could do, to bring about war. And yet today, unabashed, we find the same *Daily Mail* in black type, over its Editorial column; claiming to be, "The paper that persistently forewarned the public about the war." Could hypocrisy go any further, can one imagine any greater brazen-facedness, than Northcliffe's making such a claim?

But that is by no means all. Having played a so prominent role in bringing about war, Lord Northcliffe; now that he sees how badly matters are going for England; is seeking to cover up his trail and fool the public by attacking the government for unpreparedness. Editorially the *Daily Mail* writes: "We believe that this government, which did not see the war coming, does not now understand the terrific nature of the struggle before it. We urge that preparations on a far greater scale than are now under contemplation be immediately put in hand; that the crowds of young shirkers all over the country, who are standing back from enlistment while married men are in khaki, be 'fetched'; and above all, that more troops, guns, and shells be immediately sent to Sir John French." And the article ends up, "But we are bound to confess that we consider that the triumphant procession along Unter den Linden, of which we heard of last August, is a long way off." And yet in the next page to the Editorial from which those extracts are taken, the *Daily Mail* publishes a series of communications from responsible people clearly demonstrating that the labor situation in Great Britain is growing worse each day and the output of war material, in consequence, diminishing instead of increasing. And yet the owner of the *Daily Mail*, knowing that, goads the helpless government of his country, and casts distrust of the Ministry everywhere amongst the people.

WORKMEN WONT WORK.

Enormous Trouble in Trying to get the British Artizan to do his Duty. Great Danger of Munition Shortage.

TOO MUCH MONEY.

Crew of a Transport that Deserted. Takes Three Times as Long to Fit out a Ship as it Did when the War Broke out.

London, May 17. There is the greatest trouble here arising out of the apathy and ineptitude of the artizan. Apropos the *Daily Mail* publishes some opinions of labor experts:—

Mr. Graeme Thompson, director of transports, writes:—"The workmen—seamen, dock labourers, etc.—are rapidly becoming absolutely out of hand. The present labour situation on the Clyde and at Liverpool is merely the beginning. Unless effective measures are taken we shall have strikes at every port in the United Kingdom, and supplies to the Army and the Fleet will be stopped. In the main we have now to deal, not with the ordinary British workman, but with what remains after our best men have been recruited for the Army and Navy.

"Yesterday the crew of a transport deserted. The same thing happened the day before. The firemen go on board the transports drunk, making it impossible to get up a full head of steam, so greatly reducing the speed and endangering the lives of thousands of troops by making the vessels a target for submarines. The root cause of the serious congestion at some of the docks is not a shortage of labour but the fact that the men can earn in two or three days what will keep them in drink for the rest of the week.

"What is wanted, in addition to a proper control of the drink traffic, is a well-devised scheme promptly applied for bringing the seamen under naval and other workmen in Government employ, under military discipline. In many cases it is now taking three times as long to get ships fitted and ready to sail as it did when war broke out. Expedition is a thing of the past, and it is obvious that this may at any moment have a disastrous effect on the naval and military operations."

ON THE TYNE.

Captain Greator, R. N., director of Naval Equipment, reports:—

"The condition of labour is deplorable and the men are in a most uncertain and un-dependable state. This is so serious that at any time the whole of the shipbuilding work on the Tyne may come to a standstill. Sunday working is of little value, as the money paid for Sunday work leads to abstention from all work for often two days, and a Sunday worker will frequently not return till Wednesday. Unless something drastic is done I fear that the state of deliveries of vessels will be most seriously affected; but in the present frame of mind of the men drastic measures might have the effect of producing a critical situation."

Mr. Lander, a factory inspector puts it:—"So far as shipyard workers are concerned, there is no doubt whatever that the drinking habit is more responsible than any other cause for the great loss of time among the workmen. The fact that double time is paid for Sunday work and that consequently the men's earnings are so much more than usual no doubt tends to foster the habit of frequent indulgence in drink.

"I do not place much reliance on fatigue having much to do with lost time."

ON THE CLYDE.

Superintendent Captain Barthelot reports:—"From close observation—and my opinion is shared by all the managers of the shipyards—the amount drunk by a section of the men is much greater than it was before the war, and it is on the increase. The sole reason for this heavy drinking is that the men earn more money than they know what to do with. In a shipyard last week, where a warship was under repair, work on the inner bottom of the vessel was so badly carried out as to suggest at once on inspection that it could not have been done by men who were sober. It was dangerous and had to be condemned.

In the same yard (and it is common in most others) drunken men nominally at work had to be removed. Men are bringing or smuggling liquor into the yards in bottles, and facilities for buying spirits in bulk at public houses and at licensed grocers must be stopped."

Admiral F. C. T. Tindor, in a covering report on shipbuilding yards, says:—"The problem is not how to get the workmen to increase their normal peace output, but how to get them to do an ordinary week's work of 51 or 53 hours, as the case may be. The reasons for the loss of time are no doubt various, but it is abundantly clear that the most potent is in the facilities which exist for men to obtain beer and spirits, combined with the high rate of wages and abundance of employment. Opinion on this point is practically unanimous."

The War Wave.

Nothing Short of a Miracle can Obviate War. Growth of the Agitation. Socialists Cry for Neutrality.

Rome, May 18. Apparently the die is cast which commits Italy to war. Nothing short of a miracle can save the country from being involved in the existing great conflict. Everywhere Giolitti, the man who has done so much for Italy, is reviled. A special train is ready to take Prince Bülow and Baron Macchio into Switzerland, which country has already received thousands of German fugitives. In Turin the partisans of neutrality appear to predominate. In Milan the situation is dangerous, the upper classes being for war, the well-organised workman's associations strongly for peace.

Salandra and Sonnino are the heroes of the moment. They have decided to present themselves before the Parliament on the 20th, and to obtain from its members a vote of confidence. The Socialists intend to vote against all grants of money for war. But after all they number only 37, in a parliament consisting of 520 members, so they are helpless. The Cabinet has met and agreed upon the programme for Thursday when the Parliament assembles. The Premier will then place before the House for approval the decision of the Cabinet of what is nothing more nor less than a declaration of war. It is doubtful whether even Giolitti will offer opposition.

The *Corriere della Sera* leads the press in the incitation of the country to war. Ever a sensational sheet, it is now excelling itself in exaggerated terms. It lauds the Ministry to the skies, denounces Giolitti as a traitor to his country, as also all those who are opposed to the war.

A LITTLE LATE.

Remarkable Editorial in *Daily Mail*, what Might have Been.

NO TRUST IN LEADERS.

Has no Faith in Government. Wants Young Loafers to be Forced to Serve in Army.

London, May 16. The English editorial writer is much troubled as to what to write. The following is an extract of a *Daily Mail* leader upon what England is to do.

Many of the things that are happening in this war might have been prevented by a little more thinking ahead on the part of the Government, and a little less excuse-making on the part of their satellites.

It is obvious that if the sinking of merchantmen continues the submarine will render the receipt of the great Canadian harvest now growing a more difficult matter than we should wish. Then why not now begin to make some plans for the mobilising of the food resources of the country and the prevention of inflated prices by profit-mongers?

That is probably thinking far too much ahead for a Government that, despite their Ambassadors, attachés, and secret service, could not be induced to believe the Germans would be so unkind as to make war upon us. (!!)

CONSCRIPTION.

"Why not mobilise the single young men of the country and thus stop the expensive enlistment of married men while the young shirkers are to be seen swaggering about great cities any Sunday in their hundreds of thousands? Yesterday was a sunny day in the streets of the metropolis, and a peregrination of Holborn, Oxfordstreet, Hyde Park, Hampstead Heath, and the Strand revealed the presence of literally thousands of young men of military age not in khaki. Making due allowance for the fact that a certain proportion are probably doing war work in some shape or form, there is a vast body of recruits waiting to be 'fetched.' It is obvious that if the Government would only shake off a little of their collective timorousness they would find that the nation would joyfully raise the army that is wanted.

OTHER PEOPLES BLOOD.

"The *Daily Mail* believes that the war will demand the utmost limit of military strength of this country. It does not believe it is wise to rely for salvation upon even so fine a people as the Italians; or upon the Russians, whose splendid courage has not yet brought them within measurable distance of Berlin; or upon the French, who are putting into the field every youth over eighteen years of age. Is it remembered that efficient recruiting by means of conscription requires minute preparation? We are asked to trust the Government in this matter of recruiting. Frankly, we do not. They tell us that voluntary service has produced immense numbers of men. We agree. They compare the numbers of men raised to-day and in Wellington's time. They compare the splendid response of the nation to that of the North in the American Civil War. We agree. But the present colossal struggle dwarfs everything. Bienenheim, Victoria, Waterloo were puny playgrounds by comparison with the 500-mile long battle which is taking place every day between Switzerland and Dunkirk. It is unfair to rely upon our brave Allies for the work we should be doing ourselves.

AUSTRIAN TIDINGS.

Great Success of Second War Loan. Hungary Cleared of Russians.

THE NEW WAR LOAN.

Vienna, May 16. The city of Vienna has subscribed 23 million crowns towards the War Loan. Splendid results have also been achieved in Budapest. The greater number of financial institutions have subscribed double the amounts made towards the first war loan.

FREE PLANTING VEGETABLES.

The fruit and vegetable section of the Woman's Auxiliary Committee announces that it will distribute free of charge, quantities of vegetables for planting purposes in order to stimulate the cultivation of these important food products during the period of the war.

LOYALTY OF POLES AND BOHEMIANS.

The Bürgermeister of the Royal capital of Prague has sent the following telegram of congratulation to the Archduke Friederich upon the tremendous victories of the Allied Armies in West Galicia. "In the name of the Representatives of the Royal City of Prague, whose citizens have given vent to their joy over these brilliant victories by decorating the town with flags, I take the liberty of offering your Imperial and Royal Highness our most dutiful and loyal congratulations upon the great successes in the field of war. They will indeed be written with letters of gold upon the pages of history. They will be the symbol of the heroism of the all the peoples of the Empire, and of their gallant struggle for their beloved Fatherland."

At the last session of the Polish Club, at which the Land Marshal and Minister for Galicia were present, a resolution was passed and the following telegram sent to His Majesty:

"The Polish Club permits itself with the deepest feelings of gratitude, reverence and love, to offer his heartiest and most sincere congratulations to Your Majesty upon the most auspicious victories achieved by the Armies of Your Majesty and our German ally under the eyes of the Archduke Friedrich."

RUSSIAN VANDALISM.

Details have been received at Budapest regarding the conditions in the frontier territory of the Comitatus Saros, which has been thoroughly cleared of the enemy. A very dismal picture is presented by this region across which the tides of battle streamed so furiously. Parts of the Russian advance forces had overrun the town of Zboron on the 23rd of March. Part of this town has vanished from the face of the earth; the remainder is a single heap of rubbish. The walls of the beautiful and artistic Rakozy Church have been shattered by Russian shells. The cellars of the ducal castle of Erbödy are a mass of ruins. The fiercest struggles took place upon the high plateau of the Markowicza mountains where many villages have been visited by the ravages of war. The whole plateau is criss-crossed with trenches. Hundreds of great graves over which the double-armed Russian crosses rear into the air cover the landscape. The entire ground is covered with splinters of shells and shrapnel balls, with broken rifles and twisted bayonets. The surrounding beech-woods are scarred and mangled by shell-fire. The community of Felső-Vizkő offers a picture of complete devastation. The mark of the Russian beast is over all. But the beast has been driven out and the work of reconstruction is already under way.

UNITED STRENGTH.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Frankfurt Gazette* (*Frankfurter Zeitung*) Dr. Gans, has written on the same subject in the issue of that paper the 2nd of May, as follows:

It is a characteristic of this war, that not the chance possession of a military genius nor of a special weapon will decide the issue but the employment of the collective strength of the people, in as much as it is not only a test of the comparative strength of the nations among themselves, but also that of the absolute strength of the individual states each and for itself. And in this sense one of the most important decisions has already fallen; Austro-Hungary has stood the proof to which the vigour of its political life has been subjected and has not become weaker in its solidarity through the war, but stronger. That does not mean a mere defeat of the army of the Entente powers, but of the entire Entente policy. Unless it had had a superstitious belief in the internal weakness of the Habsburg Monarchy, the Entente would hardly have ventured to undertake this war, conducted as it essentially was and is in order to secure this Monarchy as a spoil. Long before the outbreak of hostilities, the mines had already been laid which should on the first cannon shot rend a large part from it, and indeed here and there a slight shock was felt. This was because the various peoples of the Monarchy themselves had lost under the influence of foreign agitation and of international discontent, a part of their confidence in the State and had become accessible to a hostile political propaganda."

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The Open Tribune.

Letters from our readers.

To our Readers.

We shall be glad to publish any communication by our readers, but must ask contributors to attach name and address to their letters. These will be published anonymously, if so desired.

The English Lie-mongers.

To the Editor.

I enclose you the following amusing letter published in English paper *The New Age*. Sir,—May a distracted citizen make an appeal to the Press Bureau through the medium of your hospitable columns?

We have been at war with Germany for over seven months; during that time we have had two victories per day, one in the morning papers and one in the evening papers. The Germans have also been driven backwards every day for the same period. According to my calculation there ought to be only two Germans left by this time, and these two should have been driven over the edge of the world, and be hanging on to nothing by their eyelids. Will the Press Censor, therefore, explain why the German army still has possession of nearly the whole of Belgium and part of France, and is holding up the Allies on both fronts?

I have been informed by the Press at intervals—in leaded lines—that the German army 'is ringed round by a ring of iron, but I have looked in vain for the next chapter. What does a ring of iron do when it has succeeded in ringing the pig—I mean the army? Does it sit down and smoke, and allow the dove—that is, the army, of course—to walk through? If not, what in heaven's name does it do?

How is it that though Austria and Germany have been starving, rebelling, quarrelling with each other, and in an utterly distracted condition for months, they remain as they were before the war? Have these two countries learned how to keep fit and fat on a satisfying diet of air? If so, will they kindly tip us the wink? It might prove useful shortly—after we have had a few more victories.

How did the many thousands of British prisoners, and the three or four hundred British motor 'busses, get to Germany, since we have had no defeat? Did they go of their own accord—did the prisoners take the 'busses, or did the 'busses take the prisoners?

How is it, that after the Austrian army has been annihilated several times over, and also well spanked by "gallant little Serbia", that the same Austrian army is still fighting as hard as ever, and Serbia is appealing for help on the ground that she is starving and ruined, and that the land is strewn with men, women and children "murdered" by triumphant Austrian Huns?

Why are the Death's Head Hussars still at the front, when they were wiped out by the Belgians at the beginning of the War—completely destroyed by the Allies in October—and utterly annihilated by the Russians in November? Such persistency savours of indecency, as does also the refusal of the Crown Prince to remain dead. Surely, only a Hun could continue in command after having been mortally wounded once, and dead and buried twice. Is it an idiosyncrasy of the Germans and Austrians to refuse to keep dead?

How did the Kaiser manage to recover from nervous exhaustion, fever, bronchitis, double pneumonia, and a severe operation—not to mention chronic madness—in a fortnight, and come back to the front as well as ever?

When was Reims cathedral built up again? I notice that the Germans shelled it, and reduced it to ruins, a few days ago; but they utterly destroyed it some months since.
A. M. Cameron.

To the Editor.

I am an American of pre-revolutionary ancestry and stand for America "Ueber Alles". Being of mature years and having lived many of them among German people I claim to know something of them and all that I know is but good.

They are thrifty, honest, brave, true and staunch friends.

Britain says she is fighting for her existence and (British subjects are not slow to add) also for the existence of the United States.

Britain may be fighting for her existence but I don't think she seriously considers that is the case. She is fighting for something else—Trade supremacy.

However, so far as the existence of the United States is concerned, we will take care of ourselves, fight our own battles and for my part I resent any such nonsensical talk that Britain is fighting for us.

We are told that if Germany wins she will attack the United States, this is simply a statement and is worthless and causes us no alarm.

Germany is not as likely to attack us if victorious as is Britain should she be successful in this war.

If Britain is victorious and our commerce continues to expand as it surely will, Britain will watch us with jealous eye and it will be well for us if we are prepared to defend our shores and our trade with other nations.

Britain brays of her control of the seven seas. Her Waterloo will yet come.

Sincerely
New Haven, Conn. C. V.

WAR DIARY.

May 10th 1915.

All reports about the sinking of the Lusitania agree that immediately after the first explosion caused by the torpedo several other explosions were heard. Evidently the ammunition on board had been hit and ignited which would explain that a ship built like the "Lusitania" which a number of water-tight compartments, could sink so rapidly. Under ordinary circumstances such a giant is hardly so vulnerable that it could be sunk by a single torpedo shot within a short time. On the contrary, a vessel of the "Lusitania's" tonnage must, under all circumstances, if hit by a torpedo, be fully able to reach the next port, under her own steam. That she sank so rapidly, is therefore, solely due to her load of high explosives and not to the torpedo directly. The Cunard line people and the captain of the ship solely bear the responsibility for the appalling loss of life.

It seems strange that the American people are so bluffed by pro-English feeling not to grasp the situation as it really is. The very fact that the "Lusitania" has been hit, without previous warning, by a torpedo shot from a German submarine and went down with many people on board, is for them sufficient to put the whole blame upon the Germans and to indulge in the most intemperate language. They entirely lose sight of the fact that indeed ample warning had been given, but not heeded, that the ship's character was that of a full fledged auxiliary cruiser of the British navy, that she was commanded by a British naval reserve officer, that she carried guns and a cargo consisting almost exclusively of the most dangerous kind. The German admiralty announces that the "Lusitania" had aboard, among other contraband goods, not less than 5400 boxes of munitions of war or more than five million cartridges, sufficient to kill 100,000 German soldiers if only every fiftieth bullet hits. Can anybody expect that German naval men would expose their comrades on land fighting for their country to this risk just to save about 1200 English and 150 American lives, after having given ample warning? To put this question, is equivalent to answering it. I say without fear of contradiction that no American naval officer, under the same circumstances, would have acted differently or, if he had, he should be court-martialed.

Like everybody else, I do feel very sorry for the "Lusitania" passengers who lost their lives under such sad circumstances and I can well understand that the people in America are raging about it. But if they calm down after a while and begin to reflect coolly, they will perhaps, come to the conclusion that these poor unfortunate people had been lured into a feeling of safety which was absolutely unjustified. They will, perhaps, realize that the victims of the "Lusitania" were, after all, in the same position as men or women who walk about in the streets of a town within the actual sphere of war where shells are exploding right and left. News-

papermen who go to the front as war correspondents, are warned that they do it at their own risk. Were not the passengers of the "Lusitania" in exactly the same position? Shells—and torpedoes—are fired with the object of destroying human life. Such is war. Would anybody blame, for instance, the artillery commander if shots fired from his guns at a beleaguered fortress should kill women and children?

May 11th, 1915.

Obviously President Wilson keeps very cool while the American press seems to know no limits in using wild language against Germany. One of the hottest, as usual, is ex-President Roosevelt, who talks incessantly of German piracy and murder to be stopped by America, etc. This reminds me of some bright spring days just five years ago. If my memory does not betray me, it was on the 10th day of May 1910 that Theodore Roosevelt arrived in Berlin on his trip around the world. On May 11th just five years ago, he was invited by the Emperor to witness a parade and sham battle of the crack regiments of the Prussian army at Döberitz, the famous drilling grounds of the army corps of the guard, at the close of which the Emperor assembled his generals and colonels around him, and Colonel Roosevelt who wore khaki uniform of a colonel of the New York national guard, and addressed him with these words: "Friend Roosevelt! You as a distinguished American, are the first and only foreigner who has ever been admitted to these grounds. We welcome you in our midst..." And then the Emperor continued to praise Roosevelt for his achievements as assistant secretary of the navy, as colonel in the Spanish-American war and as President of the United States. When he returned from Döberitz, Colonel Roosevelt, whom I had the privilege of meeting every day during his stay in Berlin, told me himself of the splendid spectacle he had seen, of the beautiful spirit of officers and men, whose soldier- and gentlemanlike behaviour in every respect he would never cease to praise. On May 12th Theodore Roosevelt was, in the presence of the Emperor, the Empress, the whole royal court and high dignitaries, created an honorary doctor of Berlin University in the large aula of this institution of learning, which was just about to celebrate its one hundredth anniversary. Roosevelt delivered a set speech which I had the privilege of translating into German, entitled: "The World's Cultural Movement." He started with a glowing tribute to the personal qualities of the Emperor and of the German people whom he greeted as the nearest blood relative and best component element of the American people. On May 13th the American Ambassador Dr. J. D. Hill, gave a luncheon at the Embassy rooms at the close of which Colonel Roosevelt rose, raised his glass of champagne and proposed the toast "to His Imperial Majesty and the future of the German people!"

Aud now this same Theodore Roosevelt cannot find words intemperate enough to belittle and to besmear the honor of the German people, of the German army, the navy and the Emperor. He is the same low minded seeker after notoriety he always was! Enough of this "distinguished American," to use the expression used by the Emperor at the Döberitz parade!

Italy is nearing the fatal hour when she has to decide finally what she will do. The King has received Prince Bülow, and ex-Prime Minister Giolitti, the warmest advocate of peace, has arrived in Rome to be consulted by the King and the cabinet ministers.

Science has suffered a great loss. Professor Karl Lamprecht, one of the greatest historical writers of his age and of all ages, has died in Leipzig where he held the chair made famous by him. In 1904 he travelled several months in America making a special study of political conditions.

May 14th 1915.

Two days are missing in this diary. A pressing business engagement called me hurriedly to Cologne from which I returned this morning. I found conditions in the old town on the left bank of the Rhine about the same as in Berlin. It is full of soldiers ready to go to the front if called upon, the population industrious and going about their business as usual, restaurants and hotels and amusement places crowded as if there was no war. Only many wounded soldiers, bandaged or limping on crutches, remind one of the seriousness of the times, besides long railroad trains passing the big new station, all loaded with soldiers or munitions or provisions, meeting hospital trains coming from the front in France. The inhabitants of the venerable Colonia Agrippina have lost nothing of the well-known hilarity of the Rhenish population and still know how to enjoy life and make merry in a country which invites the earthly pilgrim at each and every step to partake of the beauties of this worldly world. Yesterday, being a holiday, I visited the cathedral whose colossal towers soaring unto lofty heights are as majestic as ever, and had the good fortune to arrive just when the famous choir of bass and soprano voices sang the Palestrina mass. Many officers and soldiers, looking careworn and fatigued, were seen kneeling in deep devotion thanking the Lord that they have been spared so far. The afternoon found me at the Drachenfels, rich in legend, opposite Bonn, from where one has a beautiful view of the surrounding country from Cologne down to far beyond Hönnef and Remagen, places familiar to him who has ever visited this blessed country or who has a liking for a good glass of Rhine wine.

In Cologne I read in the newspapers the text of the German note delivered to the neutral powers expressing the regret of the German government at the loss of life connected with the sinking of the Lusitania but holding the British government responsible

for it. Its tone is so dignified and, at the same time, so much to the point that it must convince every fair-minded person of the seriousness of the German government and of the German people. But I sincerely doubt whether it will have any effect in America. They are much too excited over there to think fairly. The only man who keeps cool and waits for further enlightenment before he takes any steps, is President Wilson. It is gratifying that his attitude which has been rightfully assailed by many Americans and others, is absolutely correct and fair in this case under specially trying circumstances. I am the first to acknowledge this and rejoice over it.

The Italian cabinet has resigned. This was the great news which greeted me this morning when I emerged from the train. It certainly means at least a postponement of the final decision and gives the opponents of war time to swing public opinion around. So far old Giolitti has done well. The only question is, whether he and his friends who undoubtedly have the large majority of the Italian people on their side, will be strong enough to stem the tide of public excitement roused by demagogues like d'Annunzio and others. When once the mob begins to rule, it is no easy task for a statesman to oppose it, especially in a democratic country.

May, 15th 1915.

The state department in Washington does everything to prevent Americans from travelling to Europe, especially on English steamers. Mr. Bryan ought to have done that long ago. Now it reminds one of the old story of the man who covered the cistern after his child had fallen into the water and been drowned. Americans are also beginning to blame the British admiralty and the Cunard line for their monstrous lack of care and foresight. They begin to realize, too, that British supremacy at sea has received a shock from which it will hardly ever recuperate. But what they do not yet see is that it was a crime pure and simple to induce civilian men, women and children, to travel on a ship liable to be considered and treated as a man-of-war, in the selfish hope thus to prevent the enemy from recognizing her well-established character. And what the American authorities do not yet see, is the other fact that captain and owners of the "Lusitania" are subject to punishment and fine for violating section 8 of the American shipping act of the 22nd of August 1882 which explicitly forbids to carry passengers on a ship whose cargo consists wholly or partly of dynamite or gunpowder or other explosives. It is not only well known, but an established fact that the "Lusitania" carried, besides other war material, not less than 5400 boxes of munitions of war, which means shells, shrapnell and rifle cartridges, all loaded with the most up-to-date high explosives. It is a clear case for the United States district attorney in New York and, the Attorney

General in Washington to take up. If this was done, the American people would begin to better understand who the real culprits are.

Meanwhile the American press, ably assisted by Colonel Roosevelt, and the English papers, vie with each other in vituperations against Germany. Such excesses always lead to regrettable consequences. So we hear that the excited street mob in London, Liverpool and other English towns, in South Africa, in Australia and elsewhere is abusing Germans, smashing windows and houses, plundering and demolishing everything in sight and mostly using the anti-German sentiment as a pretext for lawlessness. The government and the public press in common have gathered so much tinder, by constantly talking of German barbarians and Huns and murderers, that they are now unable to quench the conflagration after the "Lusitania" affair proved the proverbial spark lighting the powder barrel. The British government had to admit their own incapability to check public rioting and mob rule and is compelled to order the arrest of all male Germans in the whole United Kingdom. Conditions are still worse in South Africa where pandemonium seems to reign. All this has been called a stain on England's shield of honor when the question of protecting aliens was debated in parliament, and rightly so. The weakness of the British government is really shameful.

May 16th 1915.

It sounds really strange, but it is true all the same: while Germany and Austria are absolutely quiet, there is rioting in Italy, Portugal, England, India and other British colonies. In Italy the war and anti-war parties are fighting each other so hotly, that a civil war and revolution might break out any moment. The war partisans are so angry at the Germans whose diplomacy they accuse of having frustrated their plans at the very last minute, that the Germans—still Italys, allies—are being persecuted and stoned by the mob. Prince Bülow as well as the German deputy Erzberger who is staying in Rome, have been insulted, the German newspaper correspondents have been compelled to leave Rome and go to Lugano in Switzerland. These are strange times indeed.

The Russian defeat in Galicia and Poland is growing simply enormous. Already more than 150,000 prisoners of war, over 100 guns and 300 machine guns have been counted, two Russian armies exist no more, their front is rolled up for a distance of nearly 400 kilometres, and soon all Galicia will be entirely evacuated by them, while nobody knows whether they will be able to recuperate and make another decided stand at all. It seems to me that the Russian campaign is nearing its end. So much the better! And the Turks are doing equally well on the Gallipoli peninsula where they again have decidedly defeated a French-English landing army and sunk the English battleship "Goliath." Bravo!

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The Importance for the Agricultural Interests in the United States of America of the German Supplies of Potassium Salts.

The disposing of the products of the German potassium industry was deeply affected by the outbreak of the war. The export to the United States, which amounted yearly to about 56 million marks, diminished at once very considerably, because the German shipping companies had to discontinue their service and the Neutral lines could not offer sufficient cargo space for the quantity of potassium salts which had been ordered,

American agriculture the salts it required but was occasioned rather by the circumstance, that America has been delivering during the war, to the enemies of Germany, very great quantities of ammunition and explosives, for the manufacture of which these potassium salts can be employed. The German government was naturally anxious to check an abuse of that kind, and so the agricultural interests of America were severely

these almost inexhaustible beds of Carnallite, Kainite, Sylvine and rock salt has given rise to a diversified mining industry and to a large chemical industry, occupied in turning the raw salts into potassium chloride and potassium sulphate, from which are produced potash, caustic potash, saltpetre, alum, potassium chromate, potassium cyanide, potassium bromide and other potassium compounds, and further find a many sided application in medicine, in dyeing, laundry and bleaching establishments, in weaving and photography, in the manufacture of explosives and fire-works, in the artificial production of cold, in gold mining, in the production of glass, soap, paper and paints and in many other industries. The potassium compounds find however by far their greatest use in agriculture where there is a pressing need of them, as indispensable plant foodstuffs for fertilizing poor soil and fields exhausted by continuous cultivation.

There are 193 potassium-salt works in operation in Germany, and about 100 others are being established, and these form, with the chemical factories connected with them, a national possession of very high value, representing an invested capital of more than 1600 million marks. In mining and in the factories, the German potassium industry employs about 2600 persons in various positions together with 45 000 workmen. About

has everywhere abroad its own representatives, and in all important countries its own experts, whose work it is to instruct farmers in the proper way of applying the salts. The potassium industry also embraces the world literally, in that the sacks required for last year's shipments if placed in a row would reach more than twice around the equator. The following figures show clearly how the potassium industry, which began in 1861, has developed.

of 250 steamers of 4000 tons each is necessary.

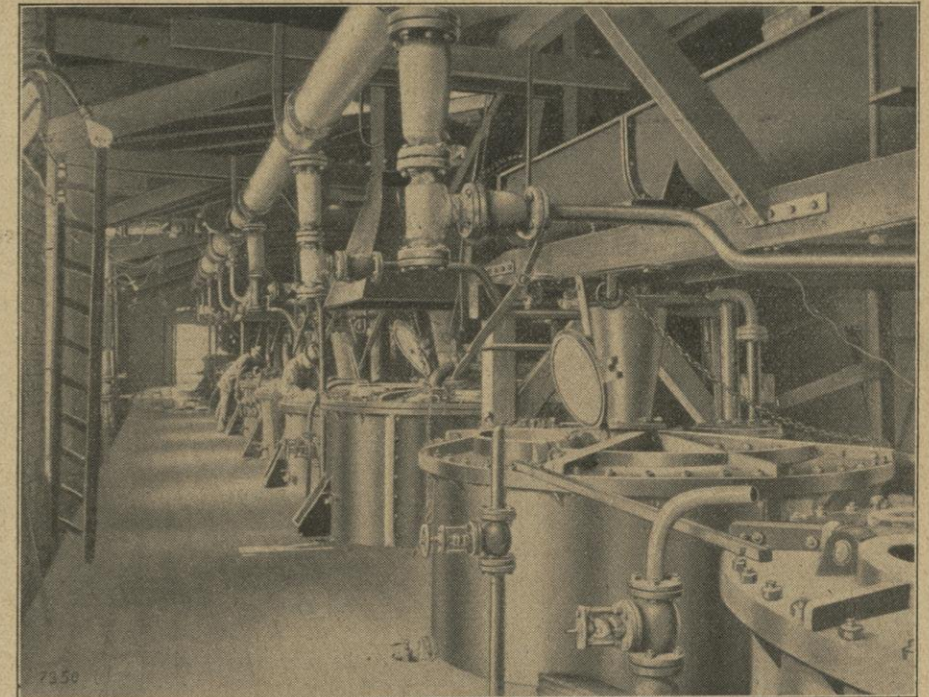
The amount used per square kilometre of tillable land is:

In the German Empire.		In the United States.	
1890	68 lbs.	12 lbs.	
1900	298 "	30 "	
1913	1364 "	107 "	

It is not open to doubt, that with the increased use of potassium in Germany



Electrical Drill in Operation.



Boilers for Dissolving Crude Salts.

the autumn shipments of which begin in August. In addition to this, the German Imperial government, at the beginning of the war, prohibited the export of these salts, and this prohibition was not removed until the end of September. As a consequence of all this only 60 000 tons could be exported to the United States in the months from August to December inclusive, while in the same period of the previous year 578 000 tons had been shipped; these was thus a falling off of 518 000 tons. It followed that the supply over there became very short, and with the strong demand, prices rose to such an extent that for potassium chloride, which formerly cost from 38 to 42 dollars per ton, according to the port laid down, 80 dollars and even 120 dollars were paid. To be sure these prices could only be given by the chemical works, and not by the agricultural interests.

At the end of January this year, the Imperial government renewed its export prohibition; this brought the shipments to a standstill, and the tangible supplies became so short that now fancy prices up to 200 dollars per ton are being demanded. The United States government has naturally the greatest interest in the removal of this prohibition, above all in order that the American agricultural interests may be provided with these salts of potassium, which cannot be dispensed with for the cultivation of the most important crops of North America, viz. cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, maize, fruit and vegetables. The bringing in of these fertilizing salts is a matter of especial significance this year, because America is anxious to have a record crop to provide the belligerent countries with the necessary grain and fodder supplies. The export-prohibition was not issued for the purpose of withholding from

damaged, which is to be regretted, through the great export of arms and ammunition from the United States. Whether the German and American governments will succeed in coming to an agreement by which at least—even if only to a limited extent—American agriculture can be supplied with German potassium, remains to be seen. Up till now, efforts in this direction have reached no tangible result.

No potassium-salt beds in the world are equal, in either quality or quantity, to those which are situated in the German Empire, which thus possesses a natural monopoly of this article, and can as a fact supply the needs of the world for an unlimited time.

The German potassium-salt deposits are unique in their extent, quality and variety of salt formation, and form consequently in themselves isolated region for geological and chemical investigation. The exploitation of

2200 boilers produce the more than 350 000 horse power required for the 2700 engines. The average daily production amounts to 3870 car loads of 10 tons each, and rises in times of brisk business, in spring and autumn, to 6000 car loads. All of the 193 works in operation are united in one concern known as the "Potassium Syndicate limited" (Kalisyndikat G. m. b. H.) Berlin S.W., which conducts the sale of all the products, the shipments to foreign countries and the business propaganda. Of the 520 employees of this syndicate, 235 are engaged abroad.

By the potassium law of May 25th 1910, the participation shares of the existing works in the total sales are regulated on the basis of a definite quota, under the supervision of the government, and by the same law the shares are fixed for the works coming in later.

The potassium syndicate embraces the whole world in its business operations. It

Potassium salts of all kinds:	Value in marks:
1880	244 987 tons 19 millions
1890	517 919 " 27 "
1900	1 538 705 " 57 "
1910	4 227 568 " 154 "
1913	5 187 298 " 192 "

The proportion of the potassium-salt production used in agriculture reached for the first time as much as 42.5 per ct. in the year 1880; it rose from that date to 76.7 per ct. in 1900, and even to 90 per ct. in 1913. From this it can be seen what value intelligent progressive farmers and agriculturists place upon the potassium fertilizers. Next to our own home agriculture, which uses 51 per ct. of the total amount employed in farming, comes the United States of America with 24 per ct. In order to ship 1,000,000 tons of these salts the amount used in the United States in 1913—a fleet

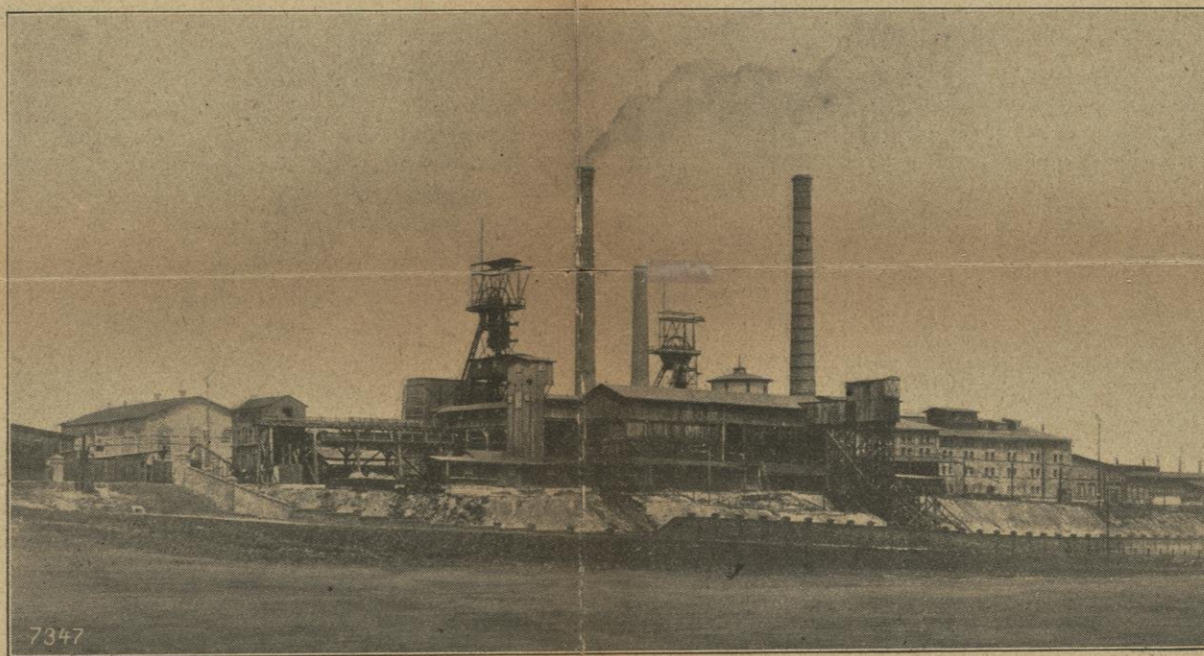
there is connected a corresponding increase of yield, which the crop statistics indeed show.

The average annual yield, taken over periods of ten years, in bushels per acre, in the two countries is as follows:

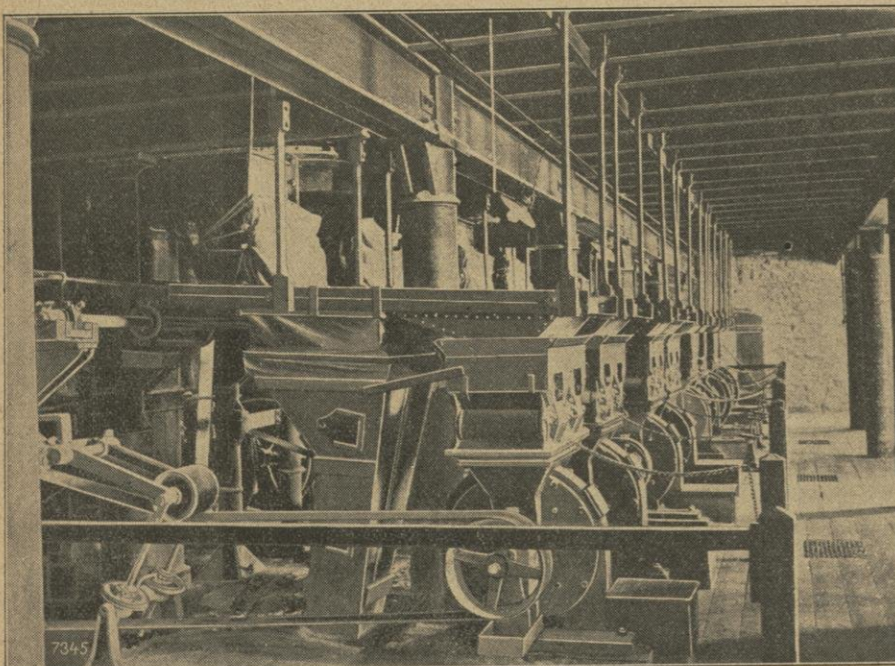
	German Empire.		
	1882-91.	1892-01.	1902-11.
Wheat	19.8	25.7	29.7
Barley	24.0	31.0	35.7
Potatoes	120.7	177.8	194.3

	United States.		
	1882-91.	1892-01.	1902-11.
Wheat	12.4	13.2	14.0
Barley	22.2	23.2	25.4
Potatoes	77.0	76.0	94.2

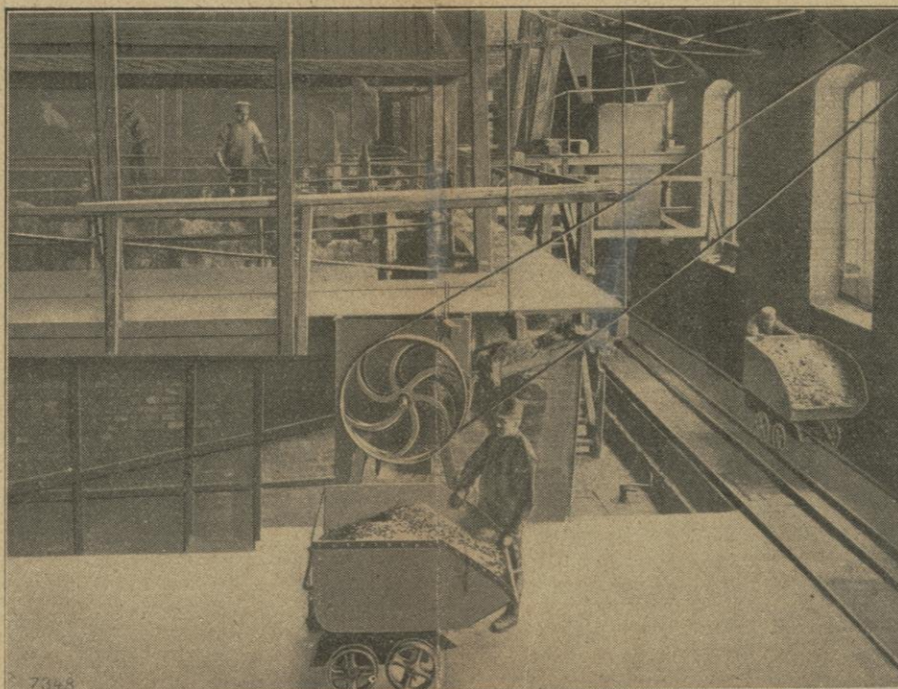
The conclusion from the above figures is that the yield per acre in the German Empire is substantially greater than in the United States. The production of bread-stuffs and potatoes has increased considerably from decade to decade in Germany, and principally in consequence of appropriate fertilizing methods with a larger use of potassium salts. In the United States more would be raised from arable land if the plants were provided with more potassium. The results reached at the government experimental-stations have shown that the favourite mixed manure used heretofore contains too little potassium for the production of the largest crops. The knowledge of the importance of potassium manuring for increasing the yield will make its way among American farmers and finally lead to the demand that the mixed manures shall contain on an average from 3 to 5 per ct. more potassium.



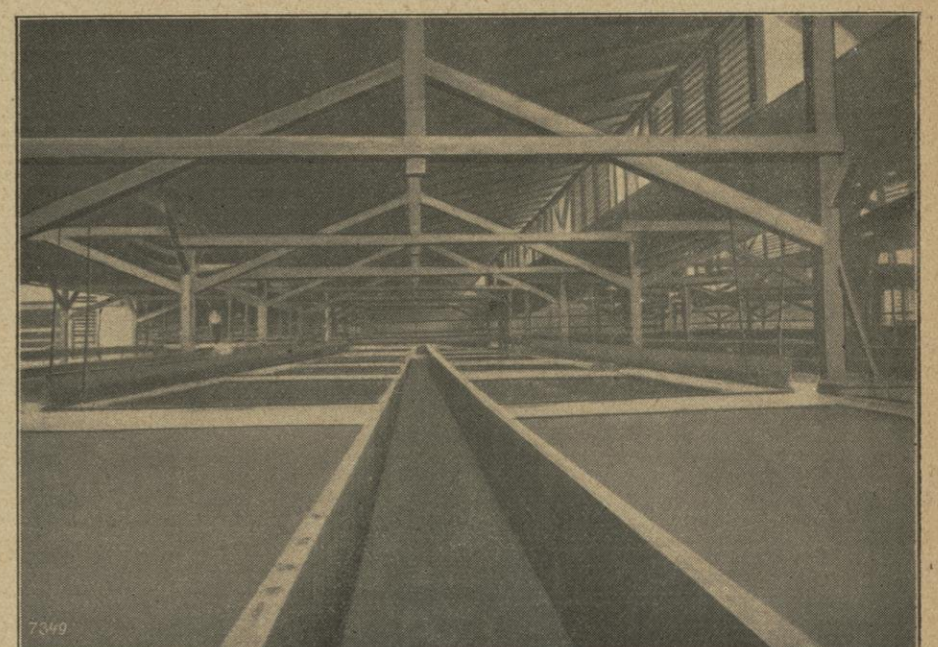
View of a Potash Mine.



Mills for Grinding Kainite.



Muriate of Potash Dryer.



Crystallizing Vats.

THE CONTINENTAL TIMES

Supplement

AUSTRO-HUNGARY AND THE WAR.

III.

THE NEW FORMATION OF AUFFENBERG'S FRONT.

In view of the unfavorable outcome of the battle at Przemyslany, the first duty of the Chief Command was not to expose the forces under Brudermann and Böhm-Emolli to further attack by an overwhelming host, but to endeavor to bring them swift and efficient help. This was possible only by halting the victorious march of Auffenberg's army and by bidding it turn and take up a position that would enable it to deliver a flank attack upon the dangerous foe.

It was no light task that the army of General Auffenberg hereby assumed. A vast army with all its countless supply trains, required for the sustenance of the men and the necessities of the fight, cannot be reversed as easily as one reverses a glove. Yet this remarkable feat met with complete success. The problem was solved with the greatest celerity in spite of the weariness of the soldiers after their long fighting, and the miserable roads. Though still struggling on the 1st of September with the enemy towards the north, the main masses of this army stood two days later east of Tomaszow with its front reversed towards the south, ready for a march upon Rawaruska. Its rear was protected by a weaker group under the Archduke Joseph Ferdinand which had reached the region of Grubieszow on the watershed of the Bug-Huczwa angle in pursuit of the enemy it had defeated at Komarow. The whole movement was a masterpiece of military technique which reflected the highest credit upon the leadership as well as upon the men.

In the meantime it had been ascertained that the Russian flood tide had not been able to overwhelm the defensive posts at Zloczow and Przemyslany without suffering a great loss of its striking power. The Russian host no longer poured westward in an uncontrollable tide, but began to push itself slowly and carefully towards Lemberg from the south, east and northwest. The greater portions of the hostile army made their way towards the northwest from the scene of action at Przemyslany, obviously giving ear to the cry of distress which reached it from the 5th Russian army which had been besieged at Komarow. Comparatively weaker forces surrounded the bridge-head at Halcze on the Dniestr and pressed gradually forward westerly in the space between this river and Lemberg.

It became clear that the immediate future would not bring to pass the chief attack against our Eastern group, or the possibility of a flank attack by Auffenberg, but that on the contrary a hot engagement was preparing for the latter. In accordance with our firm resolution to conduct the campaign so as to fetter the Russian hosts as far as possible, the new situation likewise brought new resolutions into play, namely to bring about a reversal of the eastern group in order to permit it to make a flank onslaught in the battle which the army of Auffenberg was now about to wage. This resolve was made the more easily since our brave troops, though very weary, nevertheless preserved their striking power and their eagerness for the offensive.

THE EVACUATION OF LEMBERG.

Two conditions however, remained to be fulfilled. It was absolutely necessary to give the men some brief time for recuperation and for forming them into close masses for the purposes of the proposed flank attack. This forced us to a resolve which was by no means an easy one: the evacuation of Lemberg.

This, to be sure, would enable the enemy to boast of a cheap success. But in order to defend the earth-works with which the city was surrounded, a whole army would have been required, and this army would have been subjected to all the perils of an attack from three sides. These earth-works would have sufficed as protection against hostile cavalry detachments such as were sent scouring over the country at the beginning of the war, but would have been utterly useless against heavy artillery. The forced capture of Lemberg would moreover have permitted the enemy to achieve a certain moral and military prestige in being able to boast of the capture of a fortress.

But the most serious disadvantage would have been the necessity of our troops under a state of siege of waging a continual struggle with the enemy, whereas it was highly important that every available man should be free for the battle in the open field.

The Russians were already knocking at the door of the city at Kulikow on the evening of the 1st of September. For this reason Lemberg was evacuated on the 2nd

of September. The entire eastern group of our forces withdrew behind the Wereszyca, which forms an admirable line of defence with its chains of flooded ponds near Grodek. Here the troops would be able to recover their strength and fitness until such time as the clash of Auffenberg's army with the enemy moving towards the north, should call them to fresh feats of arms.

This army turned towards Rawaruska, which it reached on the 5th of September. In the course of its advance its right wing was supposed to reach the railway from Jaworow to Lemberg and there connect with the north wing of the front at Wereszyca.

THE BATTLE AT LEMBERG.

This was accomplished on the 7th of September but not without heavy battles. Every step towards Lemberg increased the masses of the enemy that opposed us. The skirmishes between patrols swiftly developed into pitched battles, which thereby brought about the necessity for the Wereszyca lines to enter the combat. It was the duty of these forces to help organize a victorious decision and they were fully conscious of the significance of the moment.

The Russian who underrated the real condition of these unconquerable troops and imagined them to be at their last resources, a belief in which the undisputed evacuation of Lemberg may have confirmed them,—were not a little surprised when they became aware of the mighty onslaught that came rolling against them over the lower plains of the Wereszyca on the 8th of September. The Graz and Lemberg companies, led by General von Boroewic, took up their position on the heights beyond and north of the Grodek road and the large forest of Janow. In the south the Temesvar corps and the Budapest corps, which had just arrived by rail, pressed against the Russian lines of fortifications. Between these two bodies the commandant of the army, von Böhm-Ermolli, had stationed the Siebenburg companies.

The battle proceeded with the utmost bitterness on the 9th and 10th. The armies of Böhm-Ermolli and Boroewic marched from success to success. The southern wing had won some 20 kilometres towards the front, the Graz companies fought some 15 kilometres in front of Lemberg. General Auffenberg's army had so far not only resisted all the hostile attacks, but its right wing had also scored several notable successes.

The character of modern warfare is such that in place of rapid and decisive victories there is a slow and laborious wrestling and process of attrition. Again and again a routed enemy is able to occupy new positions and, thanks to the immense repulsive power of modern firearms, carry on a stubborn resistance. Long struggles are necessary and many heavy blows must be dealt ere the powers of resistance are broken down and a complete victory achieved. Our troops were on the way to the attainment of this end, but further time was required and this unfortunately was not granted them.

THE PERILOUS POSITION IN THE NORTH.

At the very moment in which it was decided to let the two armies cross the Wereszyca, we became aware of the seriousness of the situation in the north. The mighty pressure that had been exerted by the armies of Dankl and Auffenberg during the last days of August had given the Russian leaders the best of reasons for throwing all their available reinforcements and troops in transport into the region between the Vistula and the upper Bug.

When the Russians noticed that the pressure that had been applied to them so disastrously at Komarow had grown less, they began to urge forward new reinforcements in a southerly direction. The troops under the Archduke Joseph Ferdinand, threatened in their front and flank, were forced, step by step, to leave the angle of the Bug-Huczwa, and to approach the rear of Auffenberg's army. This too had already been attacked during the advance upon Rawaruska by hostile columns which came from the northeast and the east, so that it became necessary, in order to protect the chief battle-front, to form a sort of hook towards the east.

In the neighborhood of Cholm between the Wieprz and the Bug, the Russian hordes had become steadily more numerous and these at the beginning of September began to move against the right flank of Dankl's army, precisely at the same time that the Central Galician corps made an attempt to carry the enemy's position at Lublin by making an enveloping attack towards the right along the Wieprz. This move, of course, it was necessary to abandon as soon as the Russians arriving from the direction

of Cholm made their appearance along the Wieprz. Likewise we were forced to give up the plan of simultaneously attacking the positions at Lublin by an enveloping movement from the left with the assistance of the Landwehr corps of General Woysch which had crossed the Vistula. This corps was in fact of much more use in strengthening the heavily-threatened left wing, and so it moved on towards Tarnawa into a position on the Porbach, behind which the Central-Galician and the Pozsony corps would have been forced to take station.

Dankl's army offered the stoutest resistance to the overwhelming forces that opposed it, until the 9th of September. But when the left wing the troops under Kummer lost a considerable piece of ground, and the Russian onslaught upon the position on the Porbach bent these lines despite the most heroic resistance, there was no choice left us save to rescue the army from the clutch of such overwhelming odds and to withdraw it first towards the heights of Krasnik-Frampol and then, after the passage of our supply columns through the difficult region of the Tanew, to move behind the heights.

The time which was of necessity forced to elapse ere this plan could be put into execution, enabled us to continue the great struggle about Lemberg, during which the southern wing again achieved several successes.

On the other hand a steadily-growing danger now resulted through the penetration of Russian forces from Cholm between the Wieprz and the Huczwa,—forces composed of Caucasians, Grenadiers and Guards. These approached nearer and nearer to the gaps between the armies of Dankl and Auffenberg,—gaps it was impossible to fill owing to the lack of sufficient troops. Should the Russians enter this open gate the road to the rear of the battle front would have been open to them. As early as the evening of the 10th, General Auffenberg had realized the necessity of withdrawing the centre and the left wing that was fighting at Rawaruska, and of forming a new front turned towards the north in conjunction with the troops under the Archduke Joseph Ferdinand. This army on the 11th of September was therefore engaged more with the enemy towards the north than with its own proper antagonist. Only the cool leadership and the soundness of the troops enabled the army to withstand the terrible storms that besieged it on all sides—like a cliff that jutted out into a raging sea.

The main purpose of the battles that had so far been waged had been fulfilled. We had drawn upon us all those forces which Russia had been able to bring up since the opening of the campaign. Not only in the east and the north were our sorely-tried troops confronted by a vast superiority in numbers of the enemy, but the Russians had also flung great masses of men into the districts south of the Dniestr and the advance guards of these had already penetrated towards Stry and Drohobycz. The Russian armies had been thrown into confusion by our advances and attacks and had also suffered heavy losses. As results proved, several weeks were required for it to recover from the distress of these days of battle and to rearrange and re-group its forces in order to prepare it for a new offensive movement.

THE RETREAT OVER THE SAN.

It was nevertheless a severe blow for us to surrender the hope of defeating the Russians that were concentrated about Lemberg—the more so since the victory had lain so close within our grasp. The time in which this had still remained a possibility had now expired. In order not to bring this gallantly-fighting army into a perilous position and sacrifice its striking power, we were reluctantly forced to come to the decision that a retreat was necessary. This conclusion was reached by the commanding generals at noon on the 11th of September. In splendid formation and order, with flags flying and accompanied by all its war prisoners and captured guns, our army began the retreat over the San. Even the army of Auffenberg which found itself in a position of exceeding difficulty, was able to extricate itself from the enemy and to effect an undisturbed crossing of the San, though not without some previous pitched battles and losses of transports. The army under General Dankl was already established behind the San and was enabled to procure the advance of its food and ammunition-trains through the difficult territory of the Tanew. Thus the northern army was able to elude the overwhelming Russian masses which it had designedly loosed of its own accord, at the last moment and to gather fresh strength and energy after three weeks of uninterrupted fighting.

THE TASK OF THE OPENING CAMPAIGN.

The task which the general condition of the war had conferred upon our northern army in the opening campaign had been carried out in the fullest measure. The course of events, as sketched in this general account, can give no idea of the countless heroic struggles, the many acts of self-sacrificial bravery, the endless hardships so joyfully borne. It is left for later times to sing the glories of the many heroes who fought so bravely for their threatened fatherland amid a clash of never-ceasing battles. Nor could we carry out our heavy task, without serious losses—a great many brave fellows gave up their lives upon the blood-drenched field of honor. But all losses and sacrifices were unable to shake the stamina of the men. In spite of all the unavoidable changes of fortune that war brings with it, despite the knowledge of the crushing numbers and might of a valiant and well-armed foe, the most precious qualities of our army emerged as strong and pure as before. Its splendid and daring offensive spirit remained unbroken, and ere the Russians were aware of it, they found themselves threatened anew by a mighty and dauntless attack. What Russia may perhaps have regarded as the collapse of the power of resistance of Austro-Hungary, was in reality only the prelude to a long sequence of great deeds by our army and that of our ally, their common purpose,—the gradual disintegration of Russia's numerical superiority through blows repeated again and again—was being accomplished step by step.

IV.

THE BATTLE AT LIMANOWA—LAPANOW.

At the beginning of the war when the matter of publishing the official communications from the scene of war came up for discussion, it was decided that all reports of events were to be given as simply and tersely as possible, limited, of course, by the obvious necessity of not disclosing strategic situations or forthcoming operations which might prove useful to the enemy. For these reasons some of the important successes gained by our arms could only be briefly indicated, sometimes only after more or less delay.

The same precautions had to be taken with regard to articles of a military interest appearing in the daily press. The press of our country, we rejoice to say, showed the greatest compliance with these rules at all times.

The precautions at first so indispensable have now, in many cases, lost their application. It is therefore possible to publish more detailed accounts of particular events and separate actions.

The complete facts, however, regarding certain fixed points, cannot be entirely disclosed without some necessary reservation. Nor should it be forgotten that the material available in the field of war is by its very nature limited in quantity. We shall dispense with diagrams, as these would considerably increase the difficulties of a general publication. But the various operations may be followed by means of the accompanying map.

There are various good reasons for choosing as our first description the battle which took place in December in West Galicia in the neighborhood of Limanowa and Lapanow.

This battle is one of those waged on a great scale by our troops, and is therefore still fresh in the memory of the public.

The hurling back of the Russian hordes which had made their threatening advance upon eastern Germany and West Galicia, may be said to have begun with the successes achieved by the allies at Limanowa-Lapanow in the south, at Lodz and along the Bzura in the north. When we consider what hopes and importance the Triple Entente has placed upon this Russian offensive which they had proclaimed in such boastful words, it might not be too much to say that in this victory of our arms and those of our German allies, the crisis of the great world war has been successfully overcome.

Finally a description of the severe battles which took place in December in West Galicia will serve the purpose of making clear to the peoples of the Dual Monarchy all that our valiant troops and their faithful German comrades have been able to accomplish for the great common cause. It will be inspiring to learn how they battled for weeks without intermission, how they defied all dangers and hardships, enduring the greatest privations and efforts without a murmur, how the superhuman endurance required by modern warfare, an endurance no one had realized ere this,—were met by them with the heroic resolve to conquer or to die.

The following account should be read in this spirit. It may also serve to enlighten

the public with respect to the difficult tasks and changeable situations that confronted the leaders.

THE SITUATION AT THE END OF NOVEMBER AND THE PLAN FOR AN OFFENSIVE IN WEST GALICIA.

The events that occurred in November had brought about a gap of about a hundred kilometres in the lines of the two opposed armies. While the 8th Russian army under General Brusilow had sent its right wing to follow up the forces we had drawn over the crest of the Carpathians in the direction of Bartfa, the 3rd Russian army under General Radko Dimitriew, by moving westward and entering into action in the battle north of the Vistula, had proceeded along with the 9th and 11th corps along the line Lapanow—Niepolomice close to the positions we had prepared at Dobozyce and Wieliczka on the evening of November 27th. The forces of Field Marshal of Stores Liubicic, which fighting step by step, had retreated and were again in contact with the Russian advance troops, were confronted with the task of preventing a farther penetration of the enemy south of the Vistula. The south wing of this body in the frontal gap the Field Marshal Lieutenant protected by strong cavalry and Polish legionaries under Baron Nagy since he at once barred the defiles at Dobra against the hostile horsemen which had been observed near Limanowa.

In unison with the forces of Liubicic the main forces of the army under the Archduke Joseph Ferdinand, which had proceeded from Cracow in order to relieve our front in South Poland, had been withdrawn into the fortified area upon the northern bank of the Vistula after heavy fighting, with strong portions of the Russian 3rd and 9th army which had crossed the river.

This situation brought about the resolve of the General Command to transport strong detachments of the archducal army and some of the advancing German reinforcements by railway into the district of Chabowka-Jordanow so that the enemy, who had advanced into West Galicia, might be subjected to a surprise attack.

This resolve led up to the battle of Limanowa—Lapanow.

THE OFFENSIVE AT LAPANOW TO THE CRISIS AT LIMANOWA ON THE 8TH OF DECEMBER.

The first transport columns arrived at Chabowka as early as the 28th of November. In view of the important ends to be pursued, Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth received orders at Cracow on the 29th to deliver a flank attack against the enemy moving upon Field Marshal Liubicic, with all the forces that were available to him as well as those German troops commanded by Lieutenant-General von Besser. The line of action was to extend along Jordanow—Mszana Dolna.

In the meantime the hostile cavalry that stood opposed to the Austrian group under Field Marshal Lieutenant Freiherr von Nagy, had been considerably reinforced by infantry. Though Nagy was able to repulse all attacks at Dobra on the 28th, he was nevertheless forced on the very next day to withdraw to a new position at Kasina Wielka, which he succeeded in holding on the 30th.

The first divisions of the detained troops reached Mszana Dolna on this same day. In order that an advance might be made with a strong and extensive right wing in the approximate direction of Tymbark towards Bochnia, it was necessary to clear the enemy from the one road that led from the detaining station towards Tymbark.

In order to effect this the Lower-Austrian and Mahrian Landwehr troops attacked the cavalry at Kasina Wielka from the North on the 1st of December. This cavalry which was unmounted, defended itself gallantly. At noon on the 2nd the Linz infantry divisions also came into contact with the enemy west of Dobra and forced him to beat a retreat towards the naked heights which fall precipitously to the south from this point on the line of the railway. The road as far as Dobra was cleared of the enemy by the evening, though the district of Tymbark was still in his hands.

In order that this district might be conquered and thus assure reinforcements to the forces that were attacking in a northerly direction along both sides of the road to Skrzydlina, and to provide for the detachments that were still to be made, certain newly-arrived bodies of Tyrolean troops were sent on the 3rd of December to make a simultaneous attack upon Tymbark from Dobra along the road and further south over Slopnice. The enemy was driven out by the evening, and the road as far as the fork northwest of Limanowa was in our possession.

Thanks to the determined onslaught and the rapid work of our troops it was possible

THE CONTINENTAL TIMES.

to transfer to Mszana Dolna the disembarkation of the dismounting forces of the German army whose frontal lines had marched as far as Dobra on the 3rd. A further transposition, say to Dobra or Tymbarok, was not possible because of certain technical difficulties connected with transport by rail.

The Austrian-Hungarian troops gained still further ground in a northerly direction on the 3rd and 4th of December and after severe fighting, approached the village of Zbydniow, which may be found some three kilometres south of Lapanow. Here they came upon the strong position which the Russians had prepared at Krzeslawice.

THE COURAGE OF THE ALPINE TROOPS.

The valiant infantry regiments from Upper Austria and Salzburg as well as the splendid Tyrolese Kaiserjäger who were fighting side by side with them, were forced to overcome a particularly heavy resistance during this advance. Again and again the Russians, who frequently had the advantage of a commanding position, rallied against the onslaught. But they were unable to withstand our resolute charges and were forced to yield this advanced zone which measured some 10 kilometres, on the 3rd and 4th of December.

In order worthily to estimate the achievements of our troops during these days, it must not be forgotten that they had been engaged in most strenuous fighting day and night during the last two weeks of November in the region north of Cracow. They had charged with a courage such as even the Japanese, as appeared from the testimony of captured Russian officers, had never displayed. They had defended the newly-won territory against fresh enemies with the utmost tenacity, then with unbroken courage, and in fact, assured of victory, they had withdrawn, been entrained and then immediately after disembarkation had once more plunged into the fight. Thus even at the beginning of the new battles, these brave men had endured heavy losses and enormous hardships. But the feeling of elevation that seized them as soon as things once more went forward, made them forget everything and fired them with renewed zeal.

One regiment of the strong German troops under Lieutenant-General von Besser reached the district northeast of Rzegocina on the 4th of December after a heavy march. Another regiment joined up with our cavalry and entered the fight to the north of this place; the remainder of the forces moved on southward to Mlynne.

This forward movement of the entire force under the command of Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth upon a single road that was not only covered with ice but ran up hill and down dale and the subsequent turning movement towards the left in a wintry and mountainous region, occasioned enormous difficulties for the many transport-trains and the heavy artillery, but these too were overcome through a spirit of joyous and energetic co-operation.

THE SITUATION AT NEUSANDEC.

The battles from the 2nd of December to the 4th of December inclusive, had proved that the armies of the group under Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth which were attacking from the south stood opposed by two or three cavalry troop divisions with several infantry battalions, and that south of Krzeslawice there were even stronger infantry forces. Conflicting reports came from the district of Neusandec. At one time it was announced that only one division of infantry and one of cavalry were stationed there; later that there were no more than a few battalions and squadrons.

The commanding heads of our army were aware that the enemy had withdrawn the troops he had advanced towards Hertnek-Lofalu under the pressure exerted by the front of the west wing of our Carpathian army. But since there were signs that westerly movements of the 8th Russian army, probably in the direction of Neusandec, were not unlikely, new arrangements for transporting further forces from Cracow towards Tymbarok were at once made.

An advance of the enemy from Neusandec might prove very dangerous for the group under Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth. Nevertheless only cavalry from Neumarkt and a detachment of all arms from Lemanow were sent in this direction, so that no large forces might be lost for the main task—that is, the envelopment towards the north. This also rendered possible the movement of hurrying forward the bulk of the available cavalry towards Bochnia in order to cover the east wing of Roth's forces and to block the enemy. This cavalry, to be sure, was forced to enter the battle on the 4th at Rzegocina, and being but a feeble force, was unable to fulfill the great demands made upon it. It has already been indicated that German troops also entered the fight on this day.

The utmost precautions had been taken in order to conceal the impending operations from the enemy, since their very success depended upon the element of surprise. But the extensive system of Russian espionage seems to have obtained wind of the advance planned by Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth, for even as early as the 2nd and 3rd of December there were several aerial reconnaissance flights in this direction by hostile airmen. Fortunately, on the latter day we

captured the despatches of a Russian reconnaissance detachment which announced the coming advance of our troops and especially those of the Germans. This capture may have served the purpose of keeping the enemy in some degree of ignorance regarding the immediateness of the threatened danger. The engagements south of Krzeslawice on the night of the 3rd and 4th of December showed that the enemy still stood with his front toward the west and that he was but little protected on the south. It was only on the 4th that the Russians brought considerable forces into the southern area of the battle.

On the 5th of December Roth proceeded with the advance in a northerly direction towards the Chaussee Bochnia-Gdow.

At the break of day General-Lieutenant von Besser flung his right wing against the Russians. Severe bayonet fighting and detached struggles took place, but the German troops drove the enemy from all his positions and, supported by our cavalry on their left flank, they pressed forward to the Stradomka. Farther to the west the Tyrolese defeated powerful bodies of Russian troops which had endeavored to make a counter attack from the direction of Lapanow. The Linz division, connecting up from the left, gradually made room for itself, despite concentrated and flanking artillery fire, and supported the Landwehr that was advancing against the uncommonly strong positions south of Krzeslawice. The group commanded by Field Marshal Ljubicic joined up at Wisniowa.

Thus, while the enveloping movement towards the north was proceeding step by step under the greatest difficulties, and bringing us several thousands of prisoners, the conditions at Neusandec began to take a more unfavorable turn.

Before the detachment of all arms which had been sent thither had reached its goal, it encountered strong bodies of hostile infantry which were marching from Grybow, and after a short but fierce fight, retired to the heights east of Kanina on both sides of the Chaussee Neusandec-Limanowa. The cavalry sent towards Neusandec and a detachment that had come to Poprad via Neusandec, were likewise unable to penetrate any farther.

But undeterred by these incidents, Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth proceeded with the utmost power to push his advance towards the north.

SUCCESSSES OF ROTH'S ARMY.

On the night of the 6th of December the Russian positions south of Krzeslawice were captured by us. The enemy during the forenoon of that day found himself in full retreat before the group under Ljubicic whose southern wing had also cleared a field for itself. The Russians retreated only in sections before the left wing and centre of Roth's army. They also flung strong reinforcements against his right wing, apparently with the intention of preventing an attack upon their line of retreat.

The detachment sent towards Neusandec had in the meantime suffered a fresh attack on both flanks and been forced backward. This necessitated the establishment of a final strong base east of Limanowa by Landsturm troops that were hastily brought up and supplied with barbed-wire entanglements by means of motor-cars.

In the afternoon we learned from the reports of prisoners we had made that beyond all doubt sections of the 8th Russian army corps had arrived in the district of Neusandec from the Carpathians. Though this intelligence was contradicted by the air-scouts, it nevertheless necessitated the hurrying along of the transport of the troops that were coming by train, the transferring of their point of disembarkation to Tymbarok, and the issuing of a command to the effect that the columns that had arrived were to be sent forthwith on the march toward Limanowa.

THE BATTLES OF THE GERMANS.

The Germans gradually made progress in the section of Stradomka north of Rzegocina against the vast numbers of Russians which had poured in from the north and east. Towards the evening they pressed forward across the valley, took several elevated positions north of the brook and captured numerous prisoners. Our cavalry strove to keep its right flank protected against an enveloping movement by hostile infantry which came pushing on over the heights of Tymona and Lipnica. Our brave horsemen succeeded in holding back the enemy until the afternoon and kept waging a fight on foot, something to which they had by this time grown accustomed. But as new forces of Russians arrived from the direction of Czchow and attacked our cavalry in flank and rear, they were forced to withdraw after most heroic sacrifices and serious losses. They discovered on their retreat that Jakobowice had also been strongly occupied by the enemy and that Russian forces of all arms had crossed the Dunajec at Zbyszycze. Our squadrons were thus cut off from retreat along the road between Tymona and Jakobowice. They were forced to make their way over rugged mountain paths towards the west in the dark of night in order that they might reassemble on the morning of the 7th of December in the region of Pisarzowa.

Since the Germans had used nearly all their reserves in the night attack in the

direction of the cross roads south of Wisnicz and could protect their right flank only through the sixth Dragoons and a small foot detachment of other cavalry regiments at Rajbrot, the situation on this wing had become extremely critical. The troops that had arrived in Limanowa were therefore ordered to proceed via Mlynne upon the heights south of Rajbrot and there join up with the Sixth Dragoons in order to cover the flank and rear of the Germans.

The advance to the left of this on the 6th of December gained very little ground. Our troops to the southwest of this place fought their way forward to the lower levels of the Stradomka. The forces that had proceeded via Krzeslawice crossed the brook in the afternoon and took possession of the neighboring heights. The group under Field Marshal Ljubicic joined up with them and pursued the retreating enemy in a northerly direction as far as the elevation of Dobczyce.

The reports received by our Headquarters on the 5th and 6th confirmed the opinion that the enemy was withdrawing strong forces from his front in the Carpathians and thrusting them forward against the eastern flank of the Archduke's army. It was therefore necessary to thwart this threatened envelopment by sending forward to Tymbarok further bodies of troops drawn from the front northwest of Cracow. In addition to this the army of General von Boroewic, which stood south of the Carpathians and kept close touch with the enemy, was commanded to assume a general offensive on the 8th of December. New bodies of troops were assembled by rail upon its west wing in the valley of the Poprad at Luboteny and these were destined for an advance upon Neusandec.

Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth, after the favourable outcome of the previous battles, ordered this pursuit to take place on the 7th of December in order to seize the Chaussee Gdwo-Bochnia as early as possible or at least command it by artillery fire. Having reached the Raba the left wing of this group, which had been penetrating in a northerly direction, was to swing around in the direction of Wisnicz. A portion of the troops under Ljubicic whose front of battle had been considerably contracted owing to the advance of the army from two fronts, were sent marching towards Lapanow and placed at the service of Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth in order that they might be ready either to operate in a northerly direction or serve as supports to the Germans in an easterly direction, just as circumstances might dictate.

THE CROSSING OF THE STRADOMKA.

During the night of the 7th severe attacks of the enemy south of Lapanow were again repulsed. At a point a little further to the west our troops effected an early crossing of the Stradomka. When the forces which had been advancing along the south bank of the Raba without encountering any serious resistance, came in sight of the enemy who had entrenched himself in prepared defenses, further ground was won towards the north on both sides of Lapanow and thus the movement of the troops that had been ordered to proceed from the Stradomka valley to this place, was assured of cover. These troops were to execute a flank attack upon the enemy north of the Chaussee or road to Lipnica—an enemy in superior force against whom the Germans had been fiercely fighting.

In the meantime Roth received word during the forenoon regarding the situation in the valley of the Lososina and the region of Neusandec. This confirmed the arrival of the Russian 8th corps in this district and led to the surmise that a division of this corps would be stationed at Kanina and one south of this place. The cavalry we had sent forward towards Neusandec had been forced to retreat at dusk of the previous evening by way of Old Sandec across the western bank of the Dunajec. Shortly after noon an order which we had taken from a captured prisoner, brought us the intelligence that the enemy, who was retreating in the region between Lapanow and the Raba, some two divisions strong, would only take up his positions east of the Stradomka stream.

Our troops, in fact, which had been advancing from north of Lapanow against this low-lying position, encountered only a feeble resistance. Thus comparatively strong forces were enabled to proceed along the road between Lapanow and Lipnica so as to relieve the Germans who are waging a desperate and continuous battle with the enemy on their front running north and notheast.

As early as the evening of the 7th of December, our troops succeeded in setting firm foot upon the lower Stradomka. The Gliniska Gora, an important hill between Lapanow and Krolowka, was captured by Galician regiments supported by the brave Tyrolese. The so-called Landesschützen joined these on the left. Farther to the north the 28th regiment crossed the Stradomka at night. Although they had lost touch with their adjacent detachments, and the whole situation was strangely uncertain, they nevertheless plunged into the thick forests east of the stream, chased the enemy out of his defenses, made 300

prisoners, captured 3 machine-guns and reached the goal they had been ordered to attain—a hill to the north of the Gliniska Gora. Farther down the stream the 59th and the 2nd regiment of the Tyrolese Kaiserjäger advanced along the road that led eastward towards Wisnicz. In Sobolow, which was the first place east of the viaduct which was supposed to be cleared of the enemy, the columns suffered a surprise attack by rifle-fire from three sides. A loud hurrah was the answer to this ambushade. The Jägers turned to one side, the 59th towards the other, and charged. In two hours the village was in their hands. Our own losses were not light, but those of the enemy were far heavier—a great number of killed, 600 prisoners, 3 machine-guns, several thousand rifles and a great quantity of war material.

In the course of the 7th of December the Landwehr troops which had come via Mlynne arrived at positions on the heights east of Rzegocina, to the south of the Germans, who had been able to repel all Russian attacks.

In the meanwhile the movements of the enemy in the Lososina valley and in the direction of Limanowa had undergone further development. Our cavalry, which had been reinforced by a battalion of Landsturm had been attacked in the valley and also threatened by several Russian sotnies from the southern slopes of the hills. It was now forced to recede about two kilometres to the west of its position half-way between Krosna and Mlynne.

The unit that had halted east of Kanina and Pisarzowa, being surrounded on the north, now drew back to defensive positions which had been hastily and incompletely prepared near Limanowa where Major-General Count Herbertstein took up the command.

THE ADVANCE UPON WISNICZ.

On the 8th of December Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth ordered the forces north of the Chaussee Lapanow-Lipnica to continue the offensive against the district of Lipnica-Wisnicz. The Germans were to join in this movement. The Landwehr stationed to their south was to advance upon Rajbrot; the group in the Lososina valley which had again been strengthened with Landsturm, was to penetrate as far east as possible. Count Herbertstein was to halt at Limanowa. The Viennese Landwehr was to follow as a reserve upon the road mentioned above.

In executing these orders the northern wing of the forces under Roth slowly gained ground after stubborn fights about the height east of the lower Stradomka. The group under Ljubicic joined the advance between the Raba and the Vistula. His right wing reached a point near Ksiazycze on the same level as the forces on the right bank of the Raba. On the road that leads to Lipnica our troops captured the hotly-defended village of Leszczyna, half-way between Lapanow and Lipnica. The left wing of the Germans stood joined-up with these and its right still waged an undecided battle in the forest northwest of Rajbrot. The Landwehr, which had been commanded to advance by way of Rajbrot, reached the heights to the east of this place, but in view of the fact that hostile forces were once more assuming their old positions on the hills south of Rajbrot, they were obliged to draw up their line facing toward the east. The enemy occupied the hill Kobyla which lies between Krosna and Rajbrot and whose forest subsequently became the scene of much bitter fighting.

THE RUSSIAN ATTACK.

The 4th infantry division of the Russian 8th Army corps proceeded along both sides of the Lososina, the 15th went forward towards Limanowa.

Our force in the Lososina valley which had been reinforced by a battalion and a howitzer battery, was soon obliged to halt in its advance. It was opposed by a regiment of hostile infantry and two batteries; in addition to this, enemy forces were observed north of the Lososina which pushed themselves forward in the direction of the elevated road between Mlynne and Rzegocina.

This brought about the danger of exposing the rear of the troops we had in the district of Rzegocina to the enemy, we again reinforced the Lososina valley group with a battalion and two batteries. Field-Marshal Lieutenant Smekal assumed the command. Farther, the reserves, which after deducting the forces it had been necessary to send in support of the northern wing of Roth's forces, still counted 2000 rifles and 9 batteries, were ordered to move forward upon the elevated road mentioned above by way of Rzegocina. It was however to reach this point only during the course of the night.

In the meantime the situation at Limanowa had become critical. The day before a division of the enemy's cavalry, proceeding along the west bank of the Dunajec had been able to reach the district west of Old Sandec. The road to Lukawica stood open to these mounted troops and even that to Zabrzez appeared to be blocked but imperfectly by the detachment that had returned thither. At dawn on the 8th a hostile vanguard company moved toward Limanowa, followed in the afternoon by forces of unknown strength in the district of Pisarzowa. Shortly after midday two Russian battalions, followed by a regiment of Cossacks, reached a point beyond Kanina; towards four o'clock

in the afternoon, the enemy, supported by artillery, began his attack along the road and over the heights southeast of Limanowa. Our weak forces of Landsturm were incapable of offering resistance to this attack. They retired upon the road to Limanowa, but by bringing up reserves we were able once more to maintain the fight.

This crisis on the southern wing of the army of the Archduke called for new and comprehensive measures, and these led to a new phase of the battle.

THE SITUATION ON THE 8TH OF DECEMBER.

It seems necessary here to survey the general situation as it appeared to the army leaders on the evening of the 8th of December.

The army under Borevic had on this day begun the attack it had been ordered to undertake and had gained ground towards the north. An enveloping movement from the south and another from the west through the troops assembled at Luboteny, had been directed against the Russian forces established at Barfa. The enemy, however, had been able to escape this by a timely retirement by way of Zborow. The army commanders were therefore ordered, that as they proceeded with their advance towards the north, they were simultaneously to throw as strong forces as possible under forced marches towards Neusandec in order to check the transfer of the Russians from the 8th to the 3rd army, to maintain the separation of these two armies of the enemy, and then to advance against the rear of the Russians of the 8th army corps by way of Neusandec, or to support the attack over the Carpathians by swinging toward the east.

We knew that the army of the Archduke stood opposed by the 8th Russian corps and strong forces of advancing cavalry, that the rest of this army was engaged by some seven or eight hostile divisions partly on the line of Rajbrot and Niepolomice, partly moving forward over the bridges of the Vistula on both sides of Nowe Brzesko.

The battle had come to a standstill north of Cracow to a point west of Noworadomsk; in the district southwest of Piotrkow the Russians were attacking; farther to the north, and stretching to the Lower Vistula, the Germans were striving for victory.

This situation made it necessary to nurse the strength of the army of the Archduke, especially its southern wing, at the expense of other less important frontal lines by constant additions of fresh troops. Though this had been done without interruption, new forces nevertheless were sent marching from Cracow to Wieliczka, and a combined brigade from the district of Pilica was transferred to Tymbarok.

Adhering to his previous aim of throwing back the enemy in a northerly direction, Field Marshal Lieutenant Roth organized his southern wing into a fighting force as a unit under one command as well as all those troops which lay south of the Germans under the command of Field Marshal Lieutenant von Arz who had arrived at Dobra that evening. This unit was placed under the Kaschau Honved division and its task was to frustrate all attempts of the enemy to penetrate from Kanina towards Limanowa. It was to attack in conjunction with the troops stationed in the Lososina valley and north thereof under command of Field Marshal Lieutenant Smekal in the main direction via the hills east of Krosna in order to hurl the enemy across the Jakobowice and the Dunajec.

Field Marshal Lieutenant von Arz in completion of this plan, decreed that the leading brigade of the Honved division that was arriving was to march in columns to the naphtha refinery at the cross-roads northwest of Limanowa. The remainder of the division, as well as a battalion of cyclists and several squadrons, were to assemble at Tymbarok.

But as the extremely necessary infantry reinforcements arrived only by degrees, the critical situation created at Limanowa by the advance of the 8th Russian corps, endured for some time. The enemy also strengthened on the 9th of December his defenses along the northern wing of the group under Roth, and on the 10th he proceeded to a counter-attack.

These operations were concluded after various reverses suffered by the Russians, by a retreat of their main forces from Limanowa on the 11th of December. They were pursued by the Austro-Hungarian troops and great numbers of prisoners taken and war booty captured. The Austrian front was once more closed.

Our victory at Limanowa-Lapanow caused the front of the Russians in South Poland to waver, and under the attack of the German north wing at the same time the whole mass began to be affected. The enemy in West Galicia was thrown back for more than 50 kilometres. A great tract of fertile country was once more in our hands, the fortress of Cracow was secure, the richest part of Poland was occupied by us and our German allies. 30,000 prisoners were taken. The importance of the battle rests in this: That we had finally obtained an ascendancy over the enemy. And this we are fully resolved to keep until final victory assures us an honorable and permanent peace.