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No. 1209. Vol. XXII. No. 67

NEW YORK STOCKHOLM ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN VIENNA ZURICH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1915.

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LATEST NEWS. SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

English Losses.
London, Sunday. The latest casualty list includes the name of 41 officers and 708 men.

Railroad Restored.
Sofia, Sunday. Railroad communication between Sofia and Nisch has been restored.

King Peter Faints.
Lugano, Sunday. The somewhat imaginative Correspondent of the *Scavo* announces that King Peter had a fainting fit during the battle of Pirot.

"Kingtons" Meet.
Vienna, Sunday. King Nikita has arrived in Scutari to consult with King Peter upon the strained out look for both their countries.

Greece Claims Damages.
Athens, Sunday. The Government is considering a proposal to demand indemnity from the Allies for the landing of their troops at Salonica.

More English Arrive.
Budapest, Sunday. The English have landed further troops in Salonica, but they are not in sufficient numbers to replace the heavy losses hitherto sustained.

Not Wanted.
The Hague, Sunday. The Dutch Government, through its representative in Washington, has informed Mr. Ford that his peace propaganda campaign will not be permitted in Holland.

Greek Turkish Understanding.
Cologne a. R., Sunday. The *Kölnische Zeitung* has received private news from Sofia to the effect that an understanding has been come to between Greece and Turkey.

Kitchener for Petersburg.
London, Sunday. It is understood that Lord Kitchener will very shortly make a journey to Petersburg. He has been invited to go to the Staff Headquarters of the Emperor.

Servian Collapse.
Vienna, Sunday. Up to date 160,000 Servians have been taken prisoner. At the same time almost all the artillery of that country has been captured.

The Continental Times is the only newspaper published in all Europe which tells the truth in English.

Russian Loan Failure.
Petersburg, Sunday. The new forced loan appears to have been an utter failure. Two million pamphlets, calling attention to the benefits of subscribing to the loan were issued, but the public turned a deaf ear to all appeal.

King Ferdinand in Nisch.
Sofia, Sunday. King Ferdinand accompanied by a military and civil suite has paid a visit to Nisch. With the monarch came General Sawow and the head of the civil cabinet Dobrovitch.

Flour for Germany.
Frankfurt a. M., Sunday. According to the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, the syndicate of the Roumanian mills has undertaken to deliver 900,000 sacks of wheat flour to Austro-Hungary and Germany. The worth is estimated at 30 million of marks.

Expedition to Beirut.
Turin, Sunday. According to the *Stampa* Kitchener proposes organizing an expedition to Beirut in order to cut off the Turkish forces intended for Egypt. He is credited with intending to send 600,000 men. The *Stampa* however considers that measure has been taken too late to be of any use.

Bad News From Athens.
Rome, Sunday. During the sitting of Parliament on Friday, Signor Sonnino suddenly left the Chamber. Soon it was reported that bad news had come from Athens and that the Greek Government had absolutely refused the demands made by the Quadruple Alliance, for the landing of troops in various territories and also the demand that the Macedonian railroads should be given over entirely to them to control.

Further Coercive Measures.
Paris, Sunday. According to the *Echo de Paris* the French and English Government are about to renew their demands in Athens, in still severer form than hitherto.

According to the *London Times* the Greek Government has as yet taken no decision, as regards the demands of the Allies.

CAPTURE OF SERVIAN STRONGHOLD.

WONDROUS BRAVERY SHOWN BY BULGARIANS UNDER UTMOST DIFFICULTIES. DESPERATE BATTLE FOR LIFE.

Sofia, Friday. On the 19th of October one Bulgarian Division of Troops commenced decisive operations for the speedy defeat of the enemy at Veles. The commander of the Division, together with his military staff, early in the morning on that day was standing on the last height in front of the city, about two kilometres a far from it. Along both banks of the river Vardar, situated in the form of an amphitheater, the city was distinctly seen.

As, owing to strategic considerations, the cavalry contented itself to occupy only half of the city along the left bank of the river, the enemy had returned anew on the other half of the city and, reinforced with infantry and artillery, he had fortified himself within the houses, thus forming an excellent position for his defence. Thus, he could readily and conveniently defend himself against the Bulgarian forces, which were trying to cross the bridge. Having placed guns on the city clock tower as well as in the different buildings both in the center and along the bank of the river, it was comparatively easy for the Servians to prevent the Bulgarian forces from crossing the river. The soldiers, who had attempted the impossible task, had found their death and their bodies from under the bridge could not be recovered until the day of victory.

Desperate Battle.

A desperate battle of life and death commenced. From the very first hours of the battle the Bulgarians realized certain successes. One gun, driven right into the very center of the city and covered up behind a house close to the bridge, belched out a destructive fire against the enemy. The tower was frequently hit by Bulgarian granates and the guns therein were silenced. Along the surrounding hills on both sides of the river Vardar, the Bulgarian batteries were sending a crushing fire against the heights, which had been occupied by the Servians. The location of the city itself, situated as it was along both banks of the Vardar river, still further helped to create the hellish horror from the rapid firing of the guns on both sides.

On the other hand, the barbarous Servians took advantage of the tender feeling of the Bulgarians for their fellow-countrymen, the inhabitants of the city, knowing that they would not dare to fire against their families, houses and properties. And they were not deceived in their calculations; this circumstance was of great assistance to the Servians. Notwithstanding that, however, in view of the urgent necessity to act quickly, the staff of the Division had decided that the artillery should fire against these buildings as well, since the enemy had entrenched himself therein and, unpunished, had been firing against the brave Bulgarians. The shells were falling with terrific thunder here and there, raising clouds of ashy dust in the form of circles until the wind had dispersed

it. Fire broke out in two places of the city. A thick smoke, like some gigantic and irregularly shaped columns, was rising towards the sky, while the large structure of the railway station, outside of the city, was on fire now for several hours.

Desperate Struggle.

Only the Lord knew the horror experienced by the unfortunate population—those dear, long-suffering Bulgarians—for it was utterly impossible within this city, the center of the desperate struggle, to find any living beings in those beautiful homes. The peaceful population had most likely hidden in their cellars and yet every moment expecting their own doom within the ruins of the demolished houses.

In the meantime, from the nearest height, where the Bulgarians had taken their position, the city appeared depopulated, as if everything therein had been dead. There was absolutely no life to be seen anywhere, neither within the windows nor on the streets. Everything indicated absence of life, excepting the fighting Servians.

Evening came. The Bulgarians sent for their horses, which had been hidden behind a hill, nearby, as the enemy's shells were falling, while the horses, forming a large group might betray us. The bivouac of the Division was about two kilometers further away. The road was blocked up with infantry and artillery, so that the Bulgarian cavalry could only push its way through them with a great deal of difficulty. Being led by the Commander of the squadron, all the cavalymen present were silently driving through the dark road. There reigned over the city of Veles an ominous quietness. The fire was assuming larger proportions and its tongues and clouds were rising upward into the dark sky. The calmness throughout seemed mysterious as if foreboding something new, something grand, some inexplicable joy on the following day. Early the next day, Veles was in the hands of the Bulgarians.

W. Grablachoff

GREECE ACTS WITH ENERGY.

Budapest, Sunday. It is evident that the Greeks are by no means inclined to submit to being bullied by the Allies, and, as proof of such there come the news that they are placing strong guards along their Albanian frontier in view of the possible irruption of Servian refugee soldiers. If such should appear the order is that they be at once disarmed. All measures have been taken so as to utterly paralyse the working of the Greek railroads at any moment.

The above measures taken were preceded by a very prolonged sitting of a Crown Council at which the King presided. The Greeks are now exceedingly annoyed at the attempts made to infringe their liberties and rights.

AMERICAN OPINION ON NOTE TO ENGLAND.

UNITED STATES INSISTS ON RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW BEING OBSERVED. LONGEST DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENT OF ITS KIND.

New York, Saturday. The *New York American*, apropos of the latest note to England remarks: The note says: "that the United States was at first inclined to view the British measure with leniency" because of assurances that inconveniences to neutral trade would be minimized. "This Government is now forced," the note continues, "to the realization that its expectations . . . were based on a misconception of the intentions of the British Government."

"The United States cannot with complacency suffer further subordination of its rights and interests."

Challenges Validity of Blockade.
Reciting a great list of Great Britain's "increasingly vexatious" interferences with American ships and cargoes, the note declares flatly the United States will not recognize the so-called blockade established over Germany and adjacent countries, characterizing it as ineffective, illegal and indefensible.

Refusal to recognize the blockade instituted under the Order in Council means that every seizure or detention will be held ground for indemnity.

Ambassador Page is instructed to impress most earnestly upon the British Government that:

"The United States must insist that the relations between it and His Majesty's Govern-

ment be governed not by a policy of expediency but by those established rules of international conduct upon which Great Britain has held the United States to account when the latter nation was a belligerent.

"The United States unhesitatingly assumes the task of championing the integrity of neutral rights . . . against the lawless conduct of belligerents, and to the accomplishment of that task it will devote its energies."

The note contains 16,000 words and is the longest in the diplomatic history of America.

No intimation is given in the note as to the steps the United States will take to enforce its views, provided Great Britain refuses to accept them.

The only hint so far obtained as to the course Great Britain will pursue was given in a recent statement by Sir Edward Grey. He intimated that his Government would favor arbitration.

It is by no means sure that the United States will agree to arbitrate a matter in which its rights are so clearly defined.

The right of Great Britain to include in their list of contraband certain articles including cotton will be dealt with in a separate communication.

THE BALKAN CAMPAIGN. FALL OF MONASTIR.

POINT OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE BULGARIANS CAPTURED. DESPERATE SITUATION OF THE ARMY OF GENERAL SARRAIL.

SERVIANS ATTEMPT RESCUE TOO LATE.

THE ITALIAN ENIGMA.

"Monastir has fallen!" Such was the important news which announced that the last city, to which the Servians has hung on with the courage of despair, had gone down before the irresistible attacks of the brilliant Bulgarian troops—just as Pristina, Pristina and the whole row of other Servian cities have fallen one after the other during the past three weeks.

Its Importance.

If you look upon your map the importance of Monastir is, at once evident. In most maps it stands as Bitolia or Vitolia. It is on the direct line to Salonica and its occupation places the troops of the Allies in an awkward position. They came to save Serbia and there is no Serbia left to save!

Everyone asks, "What next?" It is understood that the Bulgarians have taken measures to cut off the retreat of the Servians over the Greek frontier and so they will have to retire into the mountainous and inhospitable Albanian regions, where, unless they can come into touch with the Italians, they are likely to die of cold and starvation.

What Will He Do?

Also it is exceedingly interesting to know what, under the circumstances, the French Commander in Chief will do. The fact of the Bulgarians having taken so great pains to cut off the retreat of the Servians into Greece, would seem to indicate that they themselves have no intention of pushing over the frontier. The Commander in Chief of the Allied forces thus finds himself in a very awkward position. He heads an expedition for which there no longer exists any reason. The railroads are in the hands of the enemy who is moreover in such force and in such positions as to be impregnable.

An Enigma.

The action of the Italians presents another of the many enigmas which loom up in so many directions. They are reported to have

landed a considerable force in Valona. As everyone knows the Italians have aspirations to dominate the Eastern side of the Adriatic, they are further credited with a desire to come to the rescue of the Servians. But there are no railroads in Albania and it would take a long time, if possible at all, to bring an army, large enough to be of any use over the extremely bad round about road, about 200 kilometres, which leads via Elbassan, Stroga and Ochrida, to Monastir. Almost an impossibility! Moreover General Cadorna is exceedingly against any venturesome expeditions.

Waiting Attack.

The *Temps* Correspondent at the Macedonian front announces that the forces of the Allies, have occupied the important Greek harbor of Volo, and are awaiting the joint attack of the combined armies of the Central Powers and that mines have been placed and submarines (presumably of Austria and Germany) are on the look out, so that Salonica is cut off from the sea side.

But Salonica was completely cut off from the direction of the land. The Correspondent draws the attention to the value of Volo in view of the precarious condition of Salonica, and suggests that the Allies are about to conduct a campaign through Thessaly into Macedonia. It all sounds so improbable that one must imagine that the *Temps* Correspondent is mixed up in his geographical facts.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

(Balkan Front)

The Bulgarian troops, south west of Prizrend, met the retreating enemy and after defeating him captured 100 cannons and large quantities of booty, amongst other things 200 military automobiles. In the Jama mountain (east of Debra and half way to Krcova-Ohrida) several Servian rear-guard attacks were repulsed.

German and Bulgarian companies have taken possession of the town of Monastir and been received with open arms by the population.

WHY THEY FAILED. FATAL INSTRUCTIONS.

Geneva, Sunday. The secret is at last out concerning the severe defeat of the English at Irak. It will be remembered that in his famous explanatory speech in the House of Commons, Mr. Asquith laid special stress upon the fact of the British forces being "within measurable distance of Bagdad."

The One Hope.

Now it transpires that the one great hope of the English Cabinet lay in the success of the Mesopotamian Expedition and with that object in view the British Military leaders in those parts were given the urgent order to, at all costs, effect a victory before the end of November, so as to fortify the hands of the Government. They were to reach the walls of Bagdad by then, irrespective of cost of life. It was a desperate instruction, such as was found out to be impossible with the forces at disposal.

Gallant But Hopeless.

Nevertheless the Commandant of the British forces, mostly composed of Indians, made a gallant reckless and forlorn attempt to carry out the ill considered instructions of the home Government. The British forces were simply mown down by the Germano-Turco artillery, column after column as it came along. The result was terrible defeat and retreat in panic of the forces of the expedition, which no longer exists as a fighting unit.

The French it transpires had wished to join forces in the expedition, but the English had refused their co-operation, wishing to remain alone in what they consider to be their sphere of influence, about the Persian Gulf and the Tigris.

BRITISH LOSSES AT IRAK.

Constantinople, Sunday. The English tried to escape the pursuit of the Turks by retreating towards their cannon boats. On December 1 the English sustained large losses, many hundred were taken prisoners and two transport ships laden with provisions, two gun-boats, two munition waggons and large quantities of war material captured. Amongst the prisoners were a number of white English, including a Major.

Both gun-boats are very strong, the one carrying ten quick firing guns and the other 4 machine guns. All is in good condition.

ROOSEVELT POSES FOR PRESIDENCY.

New York, Sunday. There is a very definite movement taking shape to "boom" Mr. Roosevelt for the Presidency of the United States for the election in 1916. A committee of progressive politicians, recruited from the Republicans and Democrats, but who have sundered their relations with both bodies, are now discussing plans for a National Convention in Chicago to nominate Mr. Roosevelt as the logical leader of a national organization.

The Progressive National party now recruiting to support Mr. Roosevelt will wage war against all the old parties, and place national issues entirely above the State or local politics, which have usually "cut the most ice" in recent elections.

Mr. Roosevelt's statements regarding the war, and his denunciation of the Government for declining to play a more virile and forcible part, are known to you. It is presumed they will form the basis of his appeal if he becomes a candidate for office. Criticism of President Wilson's Administration over the war has increased lately, and if Mr. Roosevelt takes the field it seems probable there will be the liveliest campaign this country has ever witnessed. President Wilson's friends are well aware how deeply the country has been stirred by the Government's policy from the start of the war, but, in view of the fact that the vast majority here have declared for peace and prosperity, and are not prepared for war, his position has been exceedingly difficult. It is believed President Wilson will run for the Presidency again, and will probably appeal to the country with some such broad issue as, "Americans pure, simple versus hyphenated Americans." He is also endorsing big measures of naval and military preparedness.

JOFFRE RESPONSIBLE.

London, Sunday. In its issue of yesterday, the *Times* publishes in leading article in which the French Commander in Chief Joffre is held personally responsible for the Salonica expedition. The *Times* appears to think that Joffre should go and take charge in the Levant and that there would then be question of appointing a new Commander on the Western Front.

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A Business and Financial Supplement.

With the ever dominating desire to satisfy its constantly increasing number of readers, the Continental Times will publish weekly, commencing from December 10, a Financial and Business Supplement. This step has been taken at the desire of many readers, both in Europe and America, who have suggested that in such manner the Continental Times, which has always striven to bring America and Europe politically more closely together, may go still further afield and likewise serve as a financial link between the Business and Financial communities of the two Continents.

The new Weekly Supplement will be headed: "News for the World of Finance and Business," and will form a regular part of each Friday's issue of the Continental Times.

The scope of our Business and Financial page will be twofold. To serve the interests of Americans, travelling or residing in Europe, by providing them with Commercial and Financial news both from European and American centres, and on the other hand keeping Americans in America in touch with what is transpiring in the Business and Commercial worlds on this side of the Atlantic.

Needless to say, the Continental Times Financial and Commercial articles will be absolutely neutral and impartial.

The columns of our Business and Financial page, will, as far as possible, contain all items of interest to the Investor and the Business man, thus making it a ready and reliable reference sheet which we hope will soon gain not only the favor of the many friends and readers we already have, but will extend its scope still further in yet broader circles, and become, what it is intended to be, the true mirror of the state of Finance and Business, both in Europe and America.

The Note To England.

The full text of the American note of England shows it to be not only the longest document of the kind ever addressed by the Government of one nation to another, but likewise the stiffest. The opening declaration is one which bears of no misconception. When the Government of the United States addresses that of Great Britain and uses the words, "We cannot with complacency suffer further subordination of our rights and interests," we may be sure that Uncle Sam is in earnest. America does not choose that England in the future shall seize American and Neutral cargoes upon suspicion. England is plainly told that that such conduct is a violation of International law and that America cannot accept such breaches of the rights of nations. Ever since the note arrived, the English have shown marked displeasure at the attitude of the United States. And in America there is a rapidly growing feeling that England means trouble. If that turns out to be the case, why, when Congress meets, there is likely to be outspoken talk, for some of the most important American interests—cotton and meat for instance—are being most severely crippled by, as the Note puts it, "Great Britain's unwarranted interference with American trade at sea."

The question between America and England is one of extreme difficulty. It is summed up in a few words. England claims the domination of the seas. America insists in emphatic manner upon the freedom of the seas. President Wilson whatever may be said about him, is out and out an "American President." Although it was, during the earlier periods of his reign at the White House, the fashion to look upon him as a theorist and a man more or less under the thumb of Mr Bryan, the truth is quite the contrary. All who know how political things are going in the United States are aware that president Wilson is the most independent Executive the White House has known. And whilst on the one hand he holds out the stiffest Note ever handed by one country to another to Great Britain, in the other he has firmly grasped a programme for the biggest fleet any nation has yet had. That is the rod in pickle should England refuse the demands of the United States.

And so, the President, that people imagined to be the man of exceeding peaceful temperament, shows his teeth. America has overwhelming cash, prodigious resources in material, endless inventive power to hand, and its navy artillerists have long ago made the name for themselves as the first in the world. If President Wilson thinks it necessary to "give the word," why there would soon spring up in the United States a navy of such dimensions that the rule of England o'er the seas would once and forever be over. It takes but a very little, and America would stand as the strongest naval power in the world.

IN THE LOBBIES OF THE BERLIN HOTELS.

IN SPITE OF WAR LEADING HOTELS NOT LACKING IN ANIMATION. DIRECTORS REPORT BUSINESS UNEXPECTEDLY GOOD.

ADLON—BRISTOL—ESPLANADE.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE WHO INHABIT THE HOSTELRIES THAT HAVE MADE BERLIN FAMOUS. THE "LIMITED DIET" APPROVED.

It will astonish those people who live away from Germany—and Americans amongst them—who imagine that in Berlin life has become a terrible and awful thing, full of restrictions, dull and dismal, to know that both theatres and hotels are doing a brisk business. The restrictions of the "meatless" and "fatless" days are met by the Hotel and Restaurant guests with the utmost equanimity, and, what is more they one and all acknowledge that they feel all the better for the mild deprivation. Only the doctors are not so happy as other people about it, as it makes too many healthy people out of those who might otherwise be unhealthy. None expected the war to come as an event, one of the episodes of which would tend to make the civilian population more healthy. I know ever so many people who say that they will never go back to the meat diet every day in the week, so well do they feel by giving up a flesh meal one day in the seven.

At The Adlon.

In the Adlon the Manager tells that notwithstanding the condition of war in which we stand, the famous hostelry at the corner of the Pariser Platz and Linden has been full-up for some weeks past. If you want to see the Adlon at its most animated time, it is between five and seven of an afternoon, for the Adlon has gained much popularity amongst the women folk as a meeting place at the tea hour, and, "where woman leads, man surely follows."

One of the interesting visitors at the Adlon for some time past has been the clever looking Bulgarian Minister of Finance, M. Dimitri Tomtcheff and with him, very often, the well known financier Dr. Stoyanoff. There is altogether a very cosmopolitan atmosphere about the Atrium of the Adlon, and a touch of the near Orient, for it is there that many of the distinguished Turks, now in mission of various sorts in the German capital, foregather.

Well Known People.

There you may see amongst the well known people, the Dowager Duchess of Schönburg, who has had the great misfortune to lose her husband at the West Front. I noticed Prince Biron von Kurland there. The well known Donnermarck family has used the Adlon for a long while past as a halting place. There is Count Guidotto Henckell von Donnermarck and his entire family who occupy an extensive suite. A few days ago the second son of Count Guidotto was baptised in the his private parlor at the Adlon, the baptismal ceremony being performed by General Superintendent Lahusen. Of the guests there were the mother of the Countess, Princess of Say-Wittgenstein, and the brother of the Countess and his wife, Prince and Princess Otto of Sayn-Wittgenstein, Princess Schönburg-Waldenburg, Countess Luxburg, a born Princess Carolath, and Count and Countess Johannes Sierstorff, she born Miss Knowlton of Brooklyn. The Godfather was the father of Count Henckell, the well known Prince of Donnermarck.

Americans Here.

Americans manage to reach here all right in spite of all the difficulties put in the way by the English controllers of the seas. Most of them are business men and nothing in the world stops an American business man getting where he wants. Among those at the Adlon are Mr. Isidore Herschfield, of New York; Mr. Willi Kugemann and Mr. Victor Arboyast, both the last just arrived from New York. Mr. Kugemann is the director of the well known National Radiator Company.

There is Mr. Thomas Smith, of the American Embassy in London; Mr. John A. Neuses, of Chicago; Mr. Gustav Roeder, of New York; Mr. Garrett-Garrett, of New York; Mr. McFadden, of St. Paul; Mr. J. Bippus, of Layton, Ohio; Mr. Harry P. Runckel, of Chicago; Mr. Harry Robby, of New York; Mr. Edward Moore, of Chicago; Mr. Fred Schwed, Mr. James Kean and Mr. B. W. Caldwell, all of New York.

At The Bristol.

At the Bristol the Manager Mr. Hartung tells that the House is nicely filled and it certainly is a most animated centre of Berlin about the luncheon hour, for the Bristol retains its place as the meeting place in the middle of the day.

Amongst those to be seen in the lobby of the Bristol may be mentioned Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, who has lately been to the Servian front; His Highness Duke Ernst Gunther of Schleswig-Holstein, who has been to the front several times and is now home making cure, and the Duchess, who is a sister of the Empress of Germany.

For a considerable time their Highnesses the Duke and Duchess Paul von Mecklenburg, she a born Windisch Graetz; have been stopping at the Bristol. Their daughter Princess Marie Antoinette, who is serving with the Red Cross may at times be seen with them and also Prince Borwin.

Faithful "Bristolites." Princess Lynar born Parsons, of Columbus, Ohio; has almost ever since the war commenced taken up her head quarters there and her daughter Princess Jane, whilst her two sons Prince Ernest, and Count Georges return from time to time from the front, where both have been fighting gallantly for their country.

caught a glimpse of Freiherr Böcklin von Böcklinsau, a good sportsman, who went near losing his life and being captured by the French, early in the war. He is now quite well again and is back on leave. Mr. Uhl the former proprietor of the Bristol Hotel is often to be seen in his old property, full of life and animation, so also Excellence von Puttkamer, and Prince Franz Radziwill, the last named fresh from the battlefields around Warsaw.

Baron Robert von Carstanjen, Baron von Meckemburg, Baron Raban von Tiele-Winckler, Baron von Heekeren, von Wassenaer, Princess Castell, from Holland; Countess Sibille Bismarck and Countess von Treuberg are all staying at the Bristol.

In The Restaurant.

In the Bristol restaurant I saw the American Consul Mr. Ley, Prince Wedel, Count Lerchfeld, the Bavarian Minister; the Duke of Ratibor, Prince Hatzfeld, Excellency Count Seebach, the Composers, Oskar Straus and Richard Strans; Countess Skorzeswka, born a Princess Radziwill; the well known race horse owner Mr. Haniel and his wife, born von Rosen; and Count Limburg Stirum.

At the Esplanade.

That most beautiful of Hotels, the Esplanade, has been the centre for a fashionable wedding banquet during the week. It was the occasion of the marriage of Princess Erica of Hohenlohe the eldest daughter of Princess Frederick Karl of Hohenlohe and the late Prince Frederick Karl of Hohenlohe; to a young officer, the son of Excellence and Frau von Ammon. The young couple had been married in the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtnis Church previously. Of these who attended the wedding banquet were Princess Frederick Karl of Hohenlohe, the mother of the bride; Excellency and Frau von Ammon, father and mother of the bridegroom; and Fräulein von Ammon, his sister.

Prince Hohenlohe Oehringen, head of the family of that name; Prince and Princess Hans Hohenlohe, Prince Max Hohenlohe, Princess Reuss, Princesses Alix, Mary, Lilly and Dorothee Hohenlohe

Prince Hatzfeld Wildenburg, Countess Hatzfeld, Duke and Duchess of Trachenberg, General von Löwenfeld, Excellence von Schubert, Fräulein von Schubert, Count and Countess Hammersberg, Count and Countess Westphalen, Captain Rösig and wife, Count and Countess Hohenau, Countess Rosi Hohenau, Countess Vitzhum and Countess Ilse von Vitzhum, Freiherr and Freifrau von Stumm, Count and Countess Johannes Sierstorff, Count Schönborn, Freiherr von Winterfeld, Freiherr von Humboldt, Major von Nimpsch, Frau von Nimpsch, Herr G. von Nimpsch, Count Schlieffen etc. etc.

Guests in the Hotel.

The Esplanade can show a highly distinguished lot of guests and they include, the Duke and Duchess of Croÿ, Princess Miguel of Braganza and her children; Count and Countess Blücher of Wahlstatt, Excellence von Flotow, former Ambassador to Rome; Count and Countess Larisch, Count Pappenheim, Countess Bernstorff, wife of the Ambassador to Washington; Count Königsmark, Countess Götzen, Mrs. Devereux, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, of the American Embassy.

At the Esplanade are also stopping Princess Frederick Karl of Hohenlohe and daughter, Prince and Princess Hans of Hohenlohe and daughters, Prince Salm Reiffescheidt, Baron Simolin, Baron von Stumm von Schwarzenstein, Count Bentinck, Legation Secretary von Brüning, Gentleman of the Court von Bülow, Consul General von Bary and wife, Excellence Coates, Count and Countess, Prashma, Countess Hatzfeld, Court Singer Slezak, Frau Margarete Kainz, Excellence Gaytan de Ayala, Spanish Ambassador Plenipotentiary; Excellence Dr. de Agüero, the Cuban Minister, and Family; Excellence Mahmud Moukar Pasha, and wife, born Princess Nimeç; Excellence Halodjian, Turkish Minister; Excellence Rifaat Pasha, and wife, and Excellency Professor Halid Zia Pasha.

How It Happened.

"I can't do a fool thing with that dern cabin," growled Noah, as he came into the cabin for supper.

"What is the matter with him?" asked Mrs. Noah.

"Why, he didn't like the quarters I gave him and he got his back up about it and he can't get it down again," replied Noah.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

HAPPY IMPRESSION MADE BY THE FLYING VISIT OF THE GERMAN EMPEROR TO 'UNSER KAISER.'

United They Stand.

DUAL MONARCHY AND GERMANY MORE WELDED TOGETHER THAN EVER. AT THE THEATRES. THE ENGLISH CONFISCATE HORSES OF WELL KNOWN SPORTSMEN.

Vienna, Sunday. People are still talking of the German Emperor here, and Kaiser Wilhelm may be sure that he has never performed a more popular action in his life, than in making those few hours visit to "Unser Kaiser," who has behaved with so much fortitude and bravery during this past war-stricken thirteen months. Those few who were privileged to see the parting between the Emperors, state that it was a most touching picture. The visit likewise served as a real tonic to popular sentiment, it came as "the right thing at the right moment."

All and All.

All understand nowadays how much Austro-Hungary and Germany are to one another. And it is the more accentuated and appreciated since the miserable display of Italy in leaving her Allies in the lurch at a critical moment. Austro-Hungary stood loyally and almost alone by Germany in the Algerias Conference; Germany stood staunch and true at all risks to Austro-Hungary in those critical days of 1908, when Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina and was then, as will be remembered, so bitterly and unnecessarily opposed by Great Britain. And nowadays the bonds which bind the two Empires are such as to have become a matter of national existence for both.

All here feel that the war is going splendidly and the opening out of the through route to Constantinople means maybe more to Austro-Hungary than all other countries, certainly from the trade point of view, for, as is known to most people, the commercial relations between this country and Turkey are a matter of tradition and of great volume.

The Theatres.

In spite of the war our theatres continue to hold full houses. The following are some of the pieces being given. At the Royal Opera House, "The Magic Flute;" at the German People's Theatre, "The Coarse Shirt;" at the Burgtheater, "Götz von Berlichingen;" People's Opera, "The Taming of the Shrew;" Vienna Theatre, "When two love one another;" the Rainaud Theatre, "Millionengrosch;" Carl Theatre, "The first wife;" Johann Strauss Theatre, "The Csardas Princess;" Bürgertheater, "That—or none;" Theatre in the Josefstadt, "The stone girl;" Volksbühne, "King Nikolo;" Stadttheater, "The Grumbler;" Neue Wiener Bühne, "The United Powers;" Residenzbühne, "A Costly Life."

There is a good deal of talk in the theatrical world as to who will be nominated as director of the Deutsche Volkstheater. The names of Dr. Hagemann and Gregori, likewise Director Hertzka, of Brünn; and a strong favourite is the Director of the Wiener Volksbühne, Dr. Arthur Rundt. On Friday, at the People's Opera there was a rehearsal of the this year's Pantomime, "Queen Little Snow White and her seven brave children," the title role filled by Anna Ethel. The fairy tale is being worked out for the People's Opera by Karl Schreder with amusing characters and lively episodes. The comedy "The bathing Girl," in three acts, by Sigmund Neumann has been purchased by the Theatre in the Josefstadt. In the Stadttheater, on Friday last, "The Taming of the Shrew" was given for Charity funds. Hansy Niese played Katharina for the first time and Petruchio was impersonated by Louis Nerz.

Race Horses War Prizes.

As is known, the thoroughbred racers of Prince Kinsky and Baron Gustav Springer and other owners had been confiscated and sold in England. Now the well known Liliane, belonging to Mr. Nikolaus von Szemere, has been attached as a Prize of War. A few months before the war Liliane had made a very auspicious debut carrying her owners colors first past the winning post. The filly is now to be sold by the Government at the three year old December auction at Newmarket, and at the same time the entire large stud of Mr. Hall Walker will be disposed of.

Iron Wall of Men.

A letter which has just been received from the south-west front by a club in Loeben, from one of its former members, now a Lieutenant with the victorious forces of Austria Hungary, gives a vivid idea of the terribly fierce nature of the fighting:

"When a man sees the approach of these tremendous numbers," says the writer, "more than five times our numerical strength, is is no wonder if he doubts for a moment whether, this time, we shall be able to hold out. But we have held out, and much more than that. We have hewn down everything living that came storming up the mountains.

"Four days and nights the mountains shook under the fire of the Italian artillery. Their cannon are innumerable and almost brand new, those of heavy calibre are set upon great and unapproachable heights. They threw their enormous shells over us and far behind us. The barbed wire defences in

The Open Tribune.

To Our Readers.

We shall be glad to publish any communication from our readers, but must ask contributors to attach name and address to their letters. These will be published anonymously not responsible for the opinions of the mously, if so desired. The Continental Times contributors to this column. Contributors are requested to limit the length of their letters to the utmost, in order to avoid the necessity of curtailing by the Editor.

What is the Matter with "Cora"?

To the Editor. You publish a letter from "Cora Helen Remington" who says that in the German menu's on meatless days, meat had merely been replaced by fish. I ask myself whether "Cora" was not dreaming, or what kind of restaurants she frequents. I take at haphazard a menu of the breakfast at the Adlon which reads as follows:

- Sauerampfersuppe. Verlorene Eier in Kartoffelhülle. Eierkuchen Elsässer Art. Barbenschnitten in Butter gebraten. Gratinierte Nudeln. Gries-Nockerln. Gefüllte Teigfleckle mit Tomaten. Fischpastetchen. Rosenkohl mit Kastanien. Pfannkuchen mit Apfelmus. Käse.

I think it will strike anyone that the "versatility of the German nation," as regards the production of a meatless meal was thoroughly well exemplified in the above menu which was provided on Nov. 5. Far from "in practically every menu meat had simply been replaced by fish," as "Cora" so recklessly asserts, out of eleven dishes only two were composed of fish, the rest being of such excellent things as eggs, potatoes, tomato pasties, cauliflower with chestnuts etc. etc. etc.

As you have published such a letter, giving your readers such an erroneous idea of the meals provided here on meatless days—I have found them perfectly excellent—I would suggest that you publish whenever you have time and space at disposal, some of the menu's of the leading Hotels and Restaurants, both as given "on meatless" and "fatless days."

Berlin, Saturday.

Do not throw away your Continental Times after reading it, but send it to a friend either at home or abroad.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

Canada last year reaped 320,695 tons of hay from 335,614 acres of land.

One of the bombs dropped by a Zeppelin is estimated to have been 460 pounds in weight.

America's first beet sugar factory was erected in Philadelphia in 1830. It did not prove a success and was dismantled. The first successful beet sugar factory was built in 1870 at Alvarado, Cal. This factory was in operation until 1913, when it closed down. It is estimated that \$100,000,000 is now invested in the sugar beet industry of this country.

A great deal of the oak used on the Pacific Coast comes from the eastern part of Asia.

The shark holds the record for long distance swimming. A shark has been known to cover 800 miles in three days.

The railroads of India are experimenting with all steel cars, as teak, the wood generally used, has advanced rapidly in price.

According to the geological survey there is good reason to believe that Louisiana is underlain by one of the greatest natural gas fields in the United States.

front of many of our positions were shot to pieces, mere tangled knots, the trenches were driven in—no doubt they believed that after four days of this hellish hail no living thing would be found in our positions. Then they came.

"They came on like swarms of flies. One corpse lay upon another, the fire of our artillery spattered among their lines, but still more came on over the fallen. During the four days of their preliminary artillery fire, our cannons had remained silent. We had busily collected munitions and had great reserves ready. We let them come on, and where the masses were thickest, there we let them have it. The quantity of ammunition which it had taken them four days to fire off, we gave back in as many hours. Rocks and stones flew into the air, and every new column was mown down as it came into range. Nothing could live in that frightful fire."

"All eyes are bent on Servia or on Russia," continues the writer, "no one realizes how our fellows here on a strip of front seven miles long a peninsula as it were in the sea of our enemies, are destroying piecemeal the whole Italian army. If it will be months before the Italians can attempt another offensive such as this has been. Such feats of endurance as the men here have achieved cannot be described in words. The Watch on the Isonzo is a veritable wall, a human wall of stone. . ."

WHAT SOME ENGLISHMEN ARE SAYING ABOUT THE WAR.
Words of Truth Nowadays Interesting.

LORD MILNER.

"Not once nor twice, but many times I have been pained to hear officers who have returned from the front, say that on the whole the German official reports of the engagements between our troops and the enemy, have been more trustworthy than the British reports.—The suppression of wireless messages is only a part of the general policy of distorting war news.—It is not only to what has been suppressed, but to what has been published that that remark applies."

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW.

"Germany's violation of Belgian neutrality had nothing to do with England's entering the war, except to furnish Mr. Asquith with a perfectly presentable and correct pretext for entering on a war to which he was already secretly pledged."

RAMSEY MACDONALD M. P.

"Gradually we are learning the truth as to who is responsible for the war. In his own camp, the mask is being torn from the face of Sir Edward Grey, and all the world now knows that Germany made every human effort to reassure England.—But Grey was bent on war and deliberately sacrificed Belgium in order to carry out the policy of humbling Germany with the aid of Russia Japan and France. The German Ambassador asked Sir Edward Grey to propose his own, conditions of neutrality and Sir Edward Grey declined to discuss the matter. This fact was suppressed by Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Asquith in their speeches in Parliament."

KEIR HARDIE M. P.

"Our entire military and naval policy operates entirely in the interests of our millionaires. What are the British interests in Persia, Egypt, India, Africa? It is not the welfare of the people but merely that of the financiers, Germany's terrible crime in the eyes of these people consisted in the great success of its international trade"

C. H. NORMAN.

"I am not pro-German, pro-Russian, pro-French, pro-Belgian; but I am pro-English in the sense that I know no reason why the British workers should be slaughtered in the interests of Russia and France, two countries which attempted to induce Germany to join in a combination in 1901 to destroy Great Britain while engaged in the Boer war. It was to the credit of the Kaiser that he rejected those proposals. As Mr. Bonar Law wrote in his letter of 2nd August, 1914, which he carefully suppressed until the following December, Russia and France are the countries Britain is supporting—not Belgium."

THE LONDON DAILY NEWS 1912.

"Europe is seething with unrest and the air is thick with rumors of impending disaster, the reason for which no man can specify. This is the situation to which Sir Edward Grey's policy has brought this country and Europe."

JOHN BRIGHT. 1864.

"If there be a Government, possible in our day, that will plunge this country into

war on the pretence of maintaining the balance of power in Europe and sustaining any kingdom there, be it little or great, I say that Government not only is not worthy of the people of England, but deserves our execration and abhorrence."

LORD LOREBURN.

"A veil has been cast over many of our misadventures. Let me quote a few illustrations Admiral Cradock's fleet was destroyed in the Pacific. It was said that he asked for more ships. Surely he needed more ships. Why were they not sent? Then there was the Antwerp expedition. To us that seemed a very strange adventure. Men who were wholly untrained and who belonged to the Naval Reserves, were sent to Antwerp. Did the military authorities approve of that before they were sent? We have been kept in the dark on that subject. Then there was the loss of three cruisers in the North Sea—a very serious misadventure.—I come to the Dardanelles expedition. We know what that has been, though we do not know, to the full extent, the blunders and suffering that been caused by it.—How are we to expect confidence when men make such a blunder as that? I have passed over in a few words what has been a long tragedy."

LORD COURTNEY.

(As reported by the London Times on "The Great British Advance.")

"The history of these attacks when first put before them, led them to suppose that great successes had been achieved, but day by day the outline of the picture of advance became dissolved and they were brought back to near the same position as existed before that great expenditure of life."

"The war had resulted in something like a deadlock of force and had operated to diminish the standard of our civilization, to take away the guarantees of liberty and to diminish the trustworthiness of law.—The culmination of the tragedy was that precisely what we said and believed, was believed and said in Germany, with the same sincerity and conviction. If that was so, he was led again to the conviction that there must be some way out of the impasse."

LORD SYDENHAM.

"The Censor had permitted us to know that in the attack on Loos a great victory was almost attained."

LORD ST. DAVIDS.

"Over and over again there had been the greatest gallantry on the part of the soldiers and regimental officers and the whole of these efforts had been thrown away with horrible loss of life, because of muddle in high places. Was it not about time they removed a general who never met with success?" (Sir John French.)

Mr. LYNCH. Clare. E. Nat.

(As reported in the London Times.)
"He would take as his general theme, that we desire to win the war, that we were not winning it and that the principal cause is was the incompetence of those who were given direction in the highest places of command. The very life of the nation was at

stake.—When he last spoke he had attacked the reputation of Lord Kitchener and there was a certain feeling of horror in the House itself. All that he had then said on that occasion had, unfortunately, been verified and the speech which was then considered pessimistic was seen to have been painted in colors not darkly enough."

E. ASHMEAD BARTLETT.

"The exact measure of responsibility which each party must bear for the tragedy of the Dardanelles cannot yet be settled. But the facts underlying the naval attack are simple and the merest tyro can understand them. We attempted a most difficult operation, as usual underestimating our opponents and without any adequate information as to the essential points."

SIR EDWARD GREY. Nov. 2. 1915.

"We were prepared to give our friends in the Balkans, all the support in our power, in the manner that would be most welcome to them, in consort with our allies, without reserve and without qualification."
(Of the meaning of this see the following.)

LORD MILNER.

"Until last Tuesday, I should have said that our inactivity between Oct. 5 and the end of the month in the matter (Serbia) was not only weakness, but something rather like breach of faith.—But apparently we were all under a delusion. It appears now that these words (Sir Edward Grey's) meant something totally different and something which I venture to say no unsophisticated reader could possibly have read into them. I think that is a very unfortunate thing. I believe that foreign nations will in future examine very minutely our promises and pledges. They will not take them at their face value, but will look well round about and under them to see where the catch lies."

"When the Greek crisis came, we seemed to be absolutely paralyzed. I do not know why that crisis should have taken us by surprise, but it not only took us by surprise, but absolutely put us on our backs and until General Joffre came to help us make up our minds, we seem to have remained on our backs."

CONCERNING MISS CAVELL.

"She had been guilty of a military offence—there was the fact; she acknowledge certain acts concerning the conveying of soldiers to the enemy and the legal penalty for this offence under the German military Code is death."

THE "TIMES," Oct. 22.

"What should we be thinking of Miss Cavell now, if she had said I will do things for which a man would be shot, but when I am discovered, I shall be safe because I am a woman. Could anything more pitiful, more un-English be conceived?"
Votes for Women.

LORD DEVONPORT.

(Reported in the Times.)

"The financial question was the keystone of the arch. He had been told on the previous day, by one of the most competent authorities in the kingdom, that we could not go on indefinitely with our present expenditures and maintain our solvency. Many people in the country did not and would not realize that. Their heads were in the sand."

"WHO ARE THE HUNS?"

A Translation in English of the Famous Work by Dr. Ernst Müller.

THE LAW OF NATIONS AND ITS BREAKERS.

The Refutation of Many Infamies.

By R. L. Orchelle.

The Literary Supplement of the London Times recently published a review of the second German edition of Dr. Ernst Müller's well-known work upon "Der Weltkrieg 1914-15 und der Zusammenbruch des Völkerrechts". The reviewer included in his criticism an official French work purporting to be based upon the diaries of German soldiers, and bristling with forged calumnies similar to those already exposed by Prof. Kuttner in the case of Jules Bedier. The Times reviewer, as might be imagined, was full of praise and admiration for the French work and of sneers and vague denials for the German evidence.

Americans not familiar with the German edition, will now have the opportunity of judging for themselves. I have just completed a translation of this work, — somewhat abridged. It has been published by the well-known old house of Georg Reimer of Berlin and its success in Germany seems likely to be equalled by its success in America.

The alteration in title was made at the suggestion of the author. It is a work which will give all Americans a true and comprehensive perspective of the deepest and most vital questions appertaining to the Great War I have written for the book the following FOREWORD:

The dispassionate historian of the future, of a future not far distant, striving with proper intellectual honesty to ascertain the truth that underlay and accompanied the titanic world war, will be forced to wander amidst mountains of material. But dead material is not and cannot be living evidence. Indeed it may be said that the vast accumulations of printed news, reports, documents and what not, are in many cases the absolute negation of evidence. This war has produced not only a falsification of facts, of causes, of motives, of representations, on a scale never before seen in the history of the world, but it has produced the hypnosis and intoxication and even the persistent poisoning of whole peoples. The influences that were formerly confined to small restricted circles have, through the monopolizing of the press and the cables by one party of belligerents, spread until they have created entire mental atmospheres and climates, not only among the belligerent powers but among the neutral.

That truth is entirely relative has once more been proved in this tragedy of civilization. That falsehood may assume the face of truth is likewise evident. But it is no less apparent that the immortal vitality of truth will assert itself despite the most desperate and extensive attempts to slay or smother it.

A FAMOUS JURIST.

I believe that among the few reliable documents of the World War, which have been compiled during its progress, the conscientious historian cannot fail to yield a high place to this work by Dr. Ernst Müller, which is now given to the world in an English translation. Dr. Müller is not only a prominent personality of the Reichstag, in which he represents a Bavarian constituency,

but he is likewise one of the most brilliant judicial minds of Germany, and a man of that incorruptible intellectual honesty which another German, Friedrich Nietzsche, lifted to the level of a great ideal. His work upon the world war and the breakdown of international law has been hailed as one of the most significant and authoritative in Germany—where the national thoroughness and love of exact truth have been largely maintained through all the stress and distress of war—in sharp and luminous contrast to the débâcle of reason, justice and logic shown in the countries of her enemies, and also, alas, in many so-called neutral lands.

The original work, "Der Weltkrieg und der Zusammenbruch des Völkerrechts," of which this English edition is an abridgment, has passed into the third edition in Germany. Every successive edition has been carefully revised by the author and all necessary corrections made in the light of subsequent events and official testimony. All flaws, inaccuracies or doubtful statements have been eliminated so far as this has been possible. Dates, names, places, when not forbidden by the military censorship, have been given and where American or English sources are quoted and the original texts were not available, these have been retranslated, as plainly marked, from the German translation.

AN INDICTMENT OF THE ALLIES.

The work is at once a tremendous and incontrovertible indictment of the entire Entente in diplomacy, intrigue and warfare and a simple and logical justification of Germany's cause. It is not propaganda but protest, it is not protest so much as an appeal to that sense of justice and sanity which, despite the terrible inroads made upon it by the violences and asperities of war, must remain the fundament of all civilization. It approaches the lofty question of international law and morality not so much from the viewpoint of the patriot, as from that of the jurist and the historian. And in those passages in which an added emphasis or feeling are met with, Dr. Müller speaks rather as the inclusive humanitarian than the exclusive patriot.

The book comes with a special plea to us Americans. It is a quiet, almost unexpressed plea, which, if we will but give ear to it, cannot but redound to our intellectual and national advantage—provided the dissipation of erroneous conceptions and the destruction of false ideas insidiously insinuated into our minds, be considered an advantage by us.

THE MISLED AMERICANS.

As an American at present in Germany and one proud of the privilege of living in the midst of a great and noble people in the exalted hour of its destiny, the position of my own country has been a source of constant grief and much shame. These feelings are shared, I know, by all true Americans who understand the real motives behind this great catastrophe to civilization

(Continued on Page 4)

POLITICAL.

An American's Apology to Germany.

(By Roland Hugins.)

(In the Magazine "The Open Court".)

The invasion of Belgium is considered in this country the strongest count in the indictment against you; nothing carries such conviction of German perfidy to the mind of the American as your treatment of a pledge to respect her neutrality as a "scrap of paper," and many go about declaring that America disgraced herself among the nations by not officially protesting against this act of unrighteousness. For myself, this hue and cry over Belgium seems one of the least sensible aspects of American discussion. I cannot but admire the bold words of the German Chancellor in the Reichstag:

"Gentlemen, we are now in a state of necessity, and necessity knows no law. Our troops have occupied Luxemburg and perhaps are already on Belgian soil. Gentlemen, that is contrary to the dictates of international law . . . The wrong—I speak openly—that we are committing we will endeavor to make good as soon as our military goal has been reached. Anybody who is threatened, as we are threatened, and is fighting for his possessions, has only one thought—how he is to hack his way through."

It Rings True.

That statement is one of the few sincere utterances heard from any European statesman since the war began. It rings true. You were terribly threatened; you had to strike through Belgium or court ruin. Any nation in your predicament would have done the same thing. G. Bernhard Shaw put the matter squarely before Americans early in the war, when he told them: "I think, for example, that if Russia made a descent on your continent under circumstances which made it

essential to the maintenance of your national freedom that you should move an army through Canada, you would ask our leave to do so and take it by force if we did not grant it to you. I may reasonably suspect, even if all our statesmen raise a shriek of denial, that we should take a similar liberty under similar circumstances in the teeth of all the scraps of paper in our Foreign Office dustbin."

True British View.

That is the true British view, not the sniveling cant over the sanctity of treaties. A recent English historian asked, in speaking of the seizure of the Danish fleet at Copenhagen in 1807, "Would it have been any satisfaction, if we had sunk under the pressure from Bonaparte, to have died with our eyes fixed on Puffendorf and the law of nations?"

You can see, however, why the plea of self-preservation carries little weight here. The American throws aside the whole argument from necessity, to you so conclusive, because, as I have explained, he believes you the aggressor. He regards the invasion of Belgium as a dastardly detail in a sinister campaign to conquer the world. Furthermore England has made all the capital possible out of your breach of law. England's declaration of war followed your violation of Belgian neutrality, and she allged that as her cause for entry. It was a lucky stroke for the cabal of politicians that controlled Britain, for they had committed the naval and military forces of the Empire to France in secret agreements while they had openly denied these arrangements in the House of Commons. They needed an excuse before

the country, and Belgium furnished it to them. Sir Edward Grey and his faction did not stage-manage England's negotiations for their influence on neutral opinion, but for their influence on British public opinion and the recruiting campaign. Nevertheless it had its effect here. Curiously enough there exists in England a strong group of protest which is not for a moment taken in by the miserable sham of Grey, Churchill and the rest that this is a "war to preserve international law" or a "war to end war" or anything else on Britain's part but a war of imperialistic jealousy from top to bottom. But America, sentimental, credulous, self-righteous, in the face of the facts, in the face of England's record, believes that England is fighting for the rights of small nations.

Belgian Violation.

It is not reasonable to take tragically the violation of Belgium's neutrality because there was very little neutrality there to violate. She had practically allied herself with France and England. To enter into secret military agreements with two of the guarantors of her neutrality, ostensibly for "defense" but actually to the detriment of a third guarantor, was not playing the game fairly. Roland G. Usher, a writer who has attained prominence in this country by his discussion of European affairs, wrote in the *New Republic*, November 28, 1914:

"The vital difficulty in this question of neutrality was and is that the territory of Belgium was not and is not neutral ground. It is literally the front door to France and the side door to Germany, and its possession by either is so dangerous to the other that the moment war breaks out or even becomes probable, Belgium is either a part of Germany or a part of France, and hostile territory for whichever of the two does not hold it . . . Whatever the diplomatic facts may be, whatever the technicalities of alliances and treaties eventually prove to have been, Bel-

gium was as clearly an ally of France as England was. The Belgian army and its dispositions, the Belgian forts on the German frontier, were prepared with the advice, at least, of English and French generals. Plans for the cooperation of the three armies were undoubtedly made. Let us not quibble over the question whether this was an infringement of neutrality. The Belgians knew—let us say it once more—that the neutrality of Belgium was a fiction because Belgium was not neutral ground."

Belgium Not Neutral.

Quite so. Belgium was not neutral because she had thrown her sympathies to the French, and because she had connived with your recognized enemies for the employment of her military forces. You had a reasonable suspicion that she would not view a French violation of her neutrality in the same light as a German violation. Few Americans realize what the strategic situation was. They conceive of Belgium merely as an easy road to France, and the sole purpose of your invasion to strike a swift blow at France in order to be able later to turn and deal with Russia. But there was a more vital matter involved. Belgium borders on the most vulnerable portion of Germany, the great industrial district of Westphalia, which includes among other vital centers Essen and the Krupp gun works. Essen, though east of the Rhine, is less than one hundred and fifty miles from Antwerp. Cologne, Düsseldorf and Krefeld are nearer. The empire would be prostrate once this prosperous and thickly populated region of factories, blast furnaces and steel mills fell into hostile hands. It is an open secret that the English military leaders had planned in a war with you to blockade your ports by sea and enter Westphalia by land, and so hold Germany by the throat. As a road to Paris Belgium was an advantage to you; as a gate to Essen it was a warrant of death. Through Belgium you could strike France a blow in the face, but through Bel-

gium France could stab you in the back. That was the nature of the military necessity.

Compromising Documents.

You suspected, with reason, Belgium's good faith. The documents found in the archives of the Belgian general staff in Antwerp merely confirmed in part facts already thoroughly well known to your military authorities. But why, asks the American, didn't Germany wait to see if France or England intended to violate Belgian neutrality? That is the whole point. You couldn't wait. In our Southwest when a man reaches for his gun we do not expect the other disputant to see what use will be made of the gun before he draws his own. He acts on a presumption. Men who refuse to act on that sort of presumption soon have heirs reading their wills. You could not take the chance of having Belgium used as a weapon to crush you.

The destruction which hit Belgium, it is true, was a terrible penalty for her dereliction, or that of her military rulers. We live in a world where, either for the nation or the individual, the punishment rarely fits the crime. When men play with fire they may be frightfully burnt; and war is the only fire that compares with hell. The apologists and mourners for Belgium usually contend that she was justified in seeking covert aid against the German menace, which proved to be real. But she would have had a thousand times better chance to escape disaster had she practised a real neutrality and not one interpreted interests. When history makes its final reckoning, I am sure, Belgium will not be found the "black indelible blot" on your name which your enemies would place there. At least you have the satisfaction of knowing that you went about the business like men, openly and frankly, without the subterfuge and hypocrisy practised by the other nations concerned.

(To be continued.)

and who have had the privilege of knowing the real Germany and the real German people. By them America is seen as a land helpless in the clutches of vast and evil forces, financial, journalistic and political, a people abandoned as a prey to those very influences that fetter and destroy all real freedom. They behold their native land, at first an instrument in the hands of these evil elements, turned into a weapon of death against a friendly people struggling heroically for those very possessions, those priceless liberties for which the men of 1776 fought and died. They behold vain-glorious, nay, bloodthirsty demagogues such as Roosevelt openly inciting with a fanaticism that amounts to frenzy, the American populace to a war that would surpass in infamy and cowardice any that has ever been waged on this unhappy earth. They behold with amazement the patience and the noble magnanimity of the German people in the face of these monumental wrongs.

Alas, no land ever had a more golden, a more splendid opportunity for rising in moral grandeur above the nations involved in the dire and tragic toils of war. No nation has ever flung away its glorious privilege more recklessly or for more ignoble and sordid ends. The great masses of the people, we know, are not to blame. But we must either confess that these lie helpless in the face of a tiny minority of financiers and politicians, and that our democracy is there in grasp of a cruel and miserable failure, or that they are indifferent to the fate of half mankind. Have we not ventured to judge in the twilight of our ignorance—and shall we not be judged in the white and merciless light of history?

The Guilty Press.

As an American I am able to speak with greater frankness to my countrymen than it is possible for Dr. Müller to do. And I hold the dissipation of error to be the duty of every true American, irrespective of his descent. To all those who hold intellectual honesty as one of our noblest gifts and the realization of truth as the most elevating function of the mind, I would commend the reading of the work of this German scholar in an open and hospitable spirit.

The vexed and deliberately clouded question of Belgian neutrality, that cunning cry and device that won sentimental American sympathies above all other pleas or principles, is revealed in its true aspects and relation. The growing rancor and bitterness of warfare on sea and land is proved to be the natural and inevitable result of England's disregard for the laws of nations and Germany's enforced retaliation by the means at her disposal. The fictitious and hysterical tales of those famous Belgian atrocities unverified and unverifiable, sown and shouted through the world by the millions of miry mouths and organs at command of the Allies, including for our special benefit, Lord Bryce, are opposed by countless and authentic instances verified on the spot, of the most revolting cruelties perpetrated upon German soldiers and civilians. These crimes were committed under the impulse of that blind and frenzied hatred engendered by the press of London, Paris and St. Petersburg. For it is not only secret diplomacy which constitutes so terrible a danger to the welfare of all nations, but the still greater danger of a corrupt and vicious press such as that of Lord Northcliffe in London—a man who, even in the judgment of his own countrymen, must be held up to infamy by mankind as one of the chief instruments in bringing about the gigantic disaster.

The Appeal to History.

Since this book has been compiled, a still stronger and entirely non-partisan light has been thrown upon the roots of the great struggle by the publication of the correspondence of the Belgian Ministers in London, Paris and London which, despite desperate attempts at silence and suppression has been published in many neutral papers. The revelations and opinions of these Belgian diplomats have all the fascination of an absorbing drama, and prove once more that the Entente Powers are the living negations of all those things for which they are pretending to do battle.

The final indictment of the great crime and conspiracy with which the book closes must sink like a flame into the hearts of all who are capable of sympathizing with the

cause of a traduced, heroic and outraged people, a people the most peaceful, advanced and humane in all Europe, whom a foul and systematic propaganda carried on from London and Paris would persuade us are monsters, murderers and slaves! There is an immortal, an indestructible essence in Truth which must at length leaven the great mountains of falsehood, distorted fact and misrepresentation which have been heaped up to hide the causes and the consequences of this war. I am persuaded that this clear and conscientious work of Dr. Ernst Müller will help to set the cause of Germany aright before the world of to-day as surely as history will set it aright before posterity.

WHO GO TO ALASKA.

While mining is the magnet that attracts the speculative person to Alaska, the real wealth of some of its richest valleys along the coast will be found in its grazing and farm lands. Bright young men from the Dakotas, Washington and Oregon have found this out and they are pointing in the right direction when they come to Alaska, for its climate is milder and more salubrious than that of many of our northwestern States. The mining prospector is impatient to strike it rich quickly, while the ranchman and farmer are willing to wait and hold on. Let no young man go to Alaska unprepared to endure to hardships of a far-off territory. An experienced prospector recited many pathetic tales of the sufferings of young men who started out to risk everything in taking a golden chance in Alaska. The disappointment, the loneliness, the suffering some have endured should be a lesson to all. Said my friend, "Let no young man come here without a return ticket, paid for and in his pocket and a few dollars set aside for a visit home. If he wins out he is sure to go back and tell the good news. If he fails he must go back and the ticket will be the handiest thing he ever had in his life. But I don't say this to discourage the newcomer. I believe Alaska is the land of promise for the right kind of men."

Rarely do you find excursionists so deeply interested in the territory they are visiting as are the passengers on a trip to Alaska. They carry maps and official reports, which they study and talk about, and they buy photos of every place they visit.

(John A. Steicher in Leslie's.)

THE TRUTH

ABOUT BELGIUM.

A most interesting little book on the "Truth about Belgium and the Belgians" has just been issued in the German language by the Verlag für Volksliteratur und Kunst, G. m. b. H., Berlin, S.W. 61, which we should like to recommend to all those of our readers who have mastered the German language and take an interest in finding out the truth about the case of Belgium.

There is one passage in the little book, which will at once show that the value of the work, lies in its originality of focussing underlying facts, besides showing their effects, as recorded by the events of this war.

The author says, it was an extraordinary concatenation of consequences and circumstances, that Belgium, which by the end of last century had been almost completely frenchified, on the death of King Leopold received a King, who was German to his very marrow. King Albert was not only German by descent, education, views and manners, he married even one of the most German Princesses of Europe, the Princess Elisabeth of Bavaria. And this German feeling and German thinking King of Belgium was by force of circumstances forced to carry out the anti-German tendencies and engagements of his Ministers, with the effect, that he was driven out of his country by the German armies.

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