

# Special war edition. No. 1068. Vol. XXI. No. 1 / No. 1069. Vol. XXI. No. 2 January 4, 1915| January 6, 1914

Berlin, Germany: Continental Times, G.m.b.H., January 4, 1915| January 6, 1914

https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/QD4VJIIDSHSS78G

Based on date of publication, this material is presumed to be in the public domain.

For information on re-use, see http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.



## War News.

W.T.B. January 3rd. In the Alger Auberge near Rheims, which has been blown up by the Germans, a whole French company was annihilated. Attacks by strong French forces at Chalons have been repulsed. In the western Argonnes the Germans took several French trenches, gaining ground considerably and making 250 prisoners. French attacks at Sennheim (Alsace) broke down before the German fire. The village of Steinbach has been shelled to pieces by the French, house after house being systematically destroyed. The fighting at the Bzura continues. Some progress was made at the Rawa.

W. T. B. January 3rd. Following the battles of Lodz and Lowicz in Poland, over 5600C Russians have been made prisoners and many guns and machineguns were captured. The total results of the new German offensive in Poland from November 11th to December 30th are 136 600 prisoners taken and over 100 guns and 300 machine-guns captured.

W. T. B. January 3rd The total number of prisoners of war (excluding civil prisoners) interned in Germany at the close of the year is 8138 officers and 577 875 men. Not included in this number are part of the prisoners made recently in Poland and those who are still in transportation. The total is composed of French 3459 officers (including 7 generals), 215905 men; Russians 3575 officers (incl. 18 generals), 306294 men; Belgians 612 officers (incl. 3 generals), 36852 men; English 492 officers, 18824 men. The report that Russia has made 1140 German officers and 134700 men prisoners of war, is misleading as Russia is including civil prisoners, detained at the out-break of the war. The real number of prisoners of war should not be more than  $15^{0}/_{0}$  of the figure given (about 20000 men) and a large number of them fell into Russian hands wounded.

W.T.B. January 4th. An English trench was taken by the Germans at Bethune. Further progress was made in the Argonnes, resulting in 400 prisoners, 6 machine-guns, 4 mine-throwers, arms and ammunition falling in German hands. The total result of the fighting in the Argonnes during December consists of 2950 unwounded prisoners and 21 machine-guns, 14 mine-throwers, 2 quickfiring-guns and one bronze-mortar. - A French camp at St. Mihiel was destroyed by German artillery. French attacks at Flirey and Sesenheim have been repulsed. W. T. B. January 4th French attacks in the dunes at Nieuport were checked. The German forces in the Argonnes made further progress along the whole front. Near Verdun and at Apremont French attacks were also repulsed, the enemy suffering heavy casualties. The Germans succeded in taking possession of the Bois Brulé and making about 100 prisoners of war. All attempts of the French to occupy Steinbach have failed. They now bombard systematically places behind the German front; in one of these villages 50 of the inhabitants were killed in this way. The offensive in Poland, east of the Bzura and Rawka, is carried forward. W. T. B. January 4th. Artillery duels were taking place along the whole western front. In Poland, west of the Vistula, the Germans succeded in taking the strongly fortified Russian positions at Borzymow after three days most obstinate fighting. 1000 prisoners made and 6 machine-guns taken. Copenhagen, January 3rd. Daily Mail reports that four German aviators bombarded Dunkerque, one of their bombs exploding in the fortifications, two near the railway-station and several others at the Arsenal. A large number of other buldings were also damaged. The airmen disappeared half an hour later, rifle-fire by the garrison proving ineffective. Rotterdam, January 4th. The English battle-ship Fo midable was sunk this morning in the Channel. About 200 men out of a crew of 780 were saved. A later message by the German Admiral Staff announces that the sinking was due to the torpedo shot of a German submarine, which, though pursued, escaped unharmed. Vienna, January 3rd. Increased activity on the part of the Russians was noticeable in the Bucovina and in the Carpathians. The enemy was repulsed with great losses in the Nagyag Valley. No Pass west of the Uszok Pass is in Russian hands. Russian attacks at Gorlice and Zakliczyn were again repulsed. Vienna, January 4th. After the severe fighting of the last days, at Tarnow and in the Carpathians a temporary lull has set in.

# **American Protest** in London.

In the last issue of the Continental Times we expressed our conviction that the United States would not think it consistent with her position as a great Power to stand back while three small European states were taking steps to safeguard their rights as neutral powers against Englands high-handed actions at sea.

At the time those words were published the British Government was already in possession of a note of protest by President Wilson against Englands contraband policy. As France has adopted virtually the same decrees regarding contraband as Great Britain the Note is practically a statement intended for all the members of the Triple Entente.

The document says that complaints on every side hold British policy directly responsible for the depression existing in many American industries, a condition which must be apparent in Britain. Reimbursement alone on cargoe unlawfu'ly detained or seized would not remedy the evil, as the chief difficulty is the moral effect of the British practice on American exporters, who are restrained by it from taking the risks and hazards which in no case should surround legitimate trade between the United States and other neutral countries. The Note adds:

Feeling has been roused to such an extent that the Government feels compelled to ask for definite information, in order to take such measures as will protect American citizens in their rights. Patience Exhausted.

The Note goes on to declare that the Government was patient at the outbreak of hostilities, realising the burdens heaped upon the British Government, but five months have elapsed, and there is no improvement.

The Note further declares that the British fleets have been regarding absolute and conditional contraband as being in the same class, mentioning that foodstuffs are conditional contraband, since they may be destined for use by the civil Though there is every probability of a modus vivendi being found eventually, we are glad all the same that America has shown England that her claim for "ruling the waves" must in no way become a claim for "waiving the rules" of international shipping.

# **President Wilson and King Albert's**

Book. Since the blication of "King Albert's Book" sure has frequently been ex-pressed the one Président of the United States has not joined with the ex-Presidents, diplomatists, publicists, divines, authors, and artists of his country in showing sympathy with the Belgian King and people

The Presidents reasons are given in the following letter to the Editor of the Book:

#### The White House, Washington.

It goes without saying, of course, that my warmest sympathy goes out to those who are suffering in Belgium, but I think that, in view of my official position, it would be very unwise for me to write anything for the book which is being prepared under the auspices of The Daily Telegraph. The book will inevitably express a judgment about the war, and it is not proper that I should join in the expression of any judgment whatever about the circumstances under which the Belgians have suffered so grievously.

I am sure you will understand my position in this matter, and will know that it does not subtract from my acute sympathy with the suffering.

Cordially and sincerely yours, Woodrow Wilson

# The Chinese Napoleon.

London, January 2nd. According to the Daily Telegraph Yuanshikai has had an act passed by Parliament, which makes him President of the Chinese Republic for life and confers on him the right is choise is successor.—There is a certain paralle in this highly important step with that of Napoleon, when he d himself proclaimed First Consul of the French Republic. Yuanshikais position may now be said to be in fact, if not in name, that of a Monarch.

# **Uncle Sam Putting His** Foot Down. A Boon to Smaller Neutrals - England Proposes Artful Counter Move -The Tyranny of English Maritime Insurance.

By John Wulff. Like a bolt from the blue it will flash upon American Traders, when they get the cabled report from the Berlingske Tidende Copenhagen, that the London Insurance Exchange is seriously considering a resolution of discontinuing the maritime insurance of goods shipped by a neutral state to another neutral state in the neighbourhood of Germany. Such a measure would be directed chiefly against the United States and instead of merely constituting a handicap it would tend to

## stop trade altogether.

Those who thought that Germany could be floored by means of trade war will realise by and by that they have misjudged the German people; thus Director Heinicken concluded his article in the "Berliner Tageblatt." It is quite safe to add that the same observation applies to the United States who surely will not allow their trans-oceanic commerce to go to the dogs, if they can help it.

Washingtons's note to England of a few days ago has come in for its due appreciation. All the smaller neutral states have experienced a sense of intense relief, for with such an ally on their side they are entitled to the hope that England's pestering practices directed against their maritime trade will soon be a thing of the past If England did not suspend that trade altogether she reduced it to minute proportions. That however was quite sufficient

to cause the ruin of the countries dependent upon foreign commerce.

Wake up, dear friends across the ocean. England has already given you her answer. Have you grasped its purport?

The note of the Washington Government employs a moderate tone, a tone

# Vienna After The War.

In a paper upon the above subject read at Vienna, that well-known author, Adam Müller-Guttenbruna, appreciated the position in the Monarchy in relation to the great German people, held by Vienna of olden days. For centuries, the lecturer said, there was one great continuous procession of German people to the "Kaiserstadt" on the Danube. Every artisan's journeyman wishing to get his certificate as a master had to have been working at Vienna. The Vienna diploma was a sort of patent of nobility for any kind of mechanical art. But he had an idea that the time was near at hand when Vienna would assume an enhanced importance once more in the German realm, as compared with the last few decades. Vienna's position after this great war will be highly hopeful and auspicious.

The hatred of the others will force Germany and Austria to go hand in hand as they did in olden times. If Vienna is wide awake, availing itself of this new state of things, it will succeed in becoming the southern Capital of the German people, in the same way as Berlin is the modern Capital of the German Empire.

Modern Vienna is a creation of German citizens, and as such it will be called upon to secure for itself a conspicuons position, amongst the great German cities of German speaking lands. Following the example of other old cities such as Francfort, Lubeck, Nuremberg it will in future be an essential task to pay greater attention to the pre-servation of venerable monuments. It will not do to just preserve the Stefan Cathedral. Once the old city has disappeared, the spire, looming against the sky will query:

# "Where is my city gone?"

Old Vienna used to exercise a great fascination upon the imagination of men. Modern Vienna, on the other hand has become comparatively sober, it does not understand nearly as well as old Vienna did, the art of striking a great pose. Vienna has neither produced great modern creations not known now to preserve its old monuments. The lecturer proceeded to mention quite a number of projects and schemes submitted years ago and waiting to be carried out. There is the "Austrian Hall of Fame" proposed by Richard von Krolik for the Leopoldsberg, the rebuilding of Carnuntum, in the style of an antique holiday resort, which was once clamoured for by Guido List, the widest possible development of the Museum for Ethnology, the great Nibelungen Festivals in Pöchlarm. The carrying into effect of these and many other ventures would exercise an incalculable attraction upon the public of the German Empile. After the war it ought to be possible to draw towards Vienna a big stream of holiday trippers. Vienna possesses all qualifications and all conditions for

population as well as by the Army.

As to the question of the detention of American ships at sea, the Government says that it cannot tolerate undue delays in examining or convoying to British ports for detailed examination, and argues that the proof of a hostile destination must be evidenced at the time of the search at sea. The Government recognises that the belligerents have the right to search, but says that it cannot be extended to the point of diverting ships into belligerent ports merely on the suspicion, and adds that it views with concern the detention of scores of American cargoes consigned to neutral ports.

The Note charges Great Britain with not according the same treatment to American copper as to Scandinavian copper, American consignments to Italy being detained, while those of Scandinavia are not molested.

Numerous specific cases of detentions and seizures of cargoes are cited. The Note declares that these representations are made in a friendly spirit, but that the United States considers it best to speak in terms of frankness, lest silence should be considered as an acquiescence in a policy on the part of Great Britain which has infringed upon the rights of American citizens under the laws of nations. The note proceeds to the explanation as to her policy.

America's Honour at Stake. Mr. Wilson has explained to an interviewer that this note was not meant as a threat. But it is already realised by the British Press that any wrong step on Englands part would imperil the hitherto friendly relations between that country and America, the more so, as President Wilson has not only received the unanimous approval of his own party but also that of the Republicans. The President cannot withdraw after having openly challenged England. America's honour would be at stake and any weak compromise may raise a general storm not only against the President but also against bis party. But it is not to be expected that President Wilson will misjudge the strong feelings on the points in question of the American merchant community. He has already declared that England would have to pay heavy damages for any illegal tampering with American shipments.

The American Protest has created a deep impression in all neutral countries and it is believed that-though only indirectly-joint steps may be taken in fur ture by America, Italy, the three Scandinavian states and Holland. The Dutch Ambassador at London has asked for a copy of the American Note and declared that Holland had already protested in London in essentially the same sense.

# American Consuls in Belgium.

Amsterdam, January 2nd. Germany's declaration that she would not acknowledge Consuls of neutral states accredited to hostile Governments in the territory, occupied by German troops, unless they were friendly to Germany or strictly neutral, has caused a lively discussion in America. It seems that the United States Government think that this question would lead up to a dissussion of the status of Belgium. President Wilson is said to be opposed to an opening of such a discussion at the present time.

### American Charity in Vienaa.

The American Ambassador at Vienna, Mr Penfield, handed over to the Commissioner of Austrian Charities, Count Traun, a cheque for 500 Dollars from the American Red Cross for the Austrian Red Cross. Americans are anxious in every way to mitigate the evils brought doctors, for instance, have sent cottonwool to the Vienna hospitals, in acknowledgment, as Dr. James Carrol writes in the New York Evening Sun, of what the Vienra Medical School has done for American Medical School has done for American Medical men. The Austrian Emperor on his part conferred on Lieu-tenant-Com for CharlesEdward Court-ney of the for and on the American Consul-Gen I at Genoa, Mr. Edward Jones, the I ist Class of the Austrian Red Cross I idal of Honour.

### The General's Report. By James Arthur Mills.

General Strunskywitzkyvad Reported thus to Petrograd: "Alligazinkgazoodlezee "Was captured by our cavalry, "Lalapazazsk wuzkyvoo "With pleasure I report to you, "Fell into our hands without a shot, "That's going somesky, is it not? "Slaughtering tottering Teutons, we "Won a magnolious victory, "Annihilated a million men, "Took breath and killed them over again "After all this, I'm sure you'll see "A decoration is coming to me."

"General Strunskywitzkyvad," (Came the reply from Petrograd), "Much disappointed in your report; "Exploits several millions short. "Amateur wader in rivers of blood, "We decorate you with the order of mud. "Use your imagination more, "Whaddye think we pay you for?" If the London Exch "Miscellaneous Syndicate," New York. Insure your shipments

of friendship, but at the same time it lays stress upon the point of view that i must insist upon full compensation of all the losses incurred by American citizens through England's actions. With keen intuition Washington has made out England's tickly spot and has proceeded to launch an attack on it. But now it becomes a matter of holding on tight, for a contest will be initiated, which in its own way is of no less importance than the bloody struggles of the battlefields.

The grumbling of Italy, the vexation of Holland, the dissatisfaction of the northern countries, finally culminating in the meeting of the three kings at Malmo and their despatch to London of a joint note of protest, all these signs of growing trouble could not escape notice in London. And England was not embarrassed for an answer. That

answer was ready, packed and dried even before the note from Washington that constituted such a strong support of the protests of minor states came to hand.

England had to prepare to show outwardly a conciliatory attitude, such as about by this war in Austria. American | might tend to calm the outraged feelings of the neutral states, and there is no doubt that there will soon be a show of this spirit of friendliness, of these sympathetic sentiments of the British Government. But as a matter of fact England would not lose for the world the control of shipping of neutral states. What cannot be attained by official methods and honest, straight forward policy must be

# forced in some devious, underhanded way.

England has forgotten a long time ago the meaning of the expression "fair fight."

Those conversant with the ins and outs of maritime insurance know that London is in control of it and that at present, it is an impossibility to ship goods which cannot be insured in London. In this way England secures a transshipment in England and this in its turn leads to so effective a control of all compercial conmodities as has never been possessed by any one before. Whatever the British Government does not care to keep can be re-exported; whatever Great Britain can do with will not leave her coasts again after such a transshipment.

Wake up, Americans! By all means seize the hand England is sure to proffer you in orficial friendship, but at the same time mind that you grasp with iron energy the gauntlet thrown down to you behind the wings. Do not relax your efforts in this financial fight with Albion, for in this you will conquer.

If the London Exchange refuses to

### becoming the German Paris.

Here the older civilation, the more refined taste is to be found, here German art has its most ancient home, here mechanical art has been steadily revived since half a century, here many an industry has been developed to highest prosperity, and if there is any leading centre for the the creation of new fashious, that centre is Vienna. Out of its own soil, out of its own self Vienna ought to be developed and many of the attractions constituting in the eyes of Germans and of our womenfolk the real charm of Paris could be called into being here. There is no lack of talent in Vienna. And if it is absent Viennese artists and men of skill staying abroad can be called back home.

In conclusion the lecturer addressed to his audience the query who should call into existence all those works and enterprises which he had proposed. There being as yet no Ministry of Fine Arts, he could only give the one good counsel, viz. to

#### form a Danube Society

after the time-honoured Vienna pattern. Artists, architects, engineers, industrials and authors would constitute its members and hold conferences. If they succeed in fixing up a working program a loan guaranteed by town and country could be issued, the interest and gradual redemption of which will take place out of the proceeds of the enterprises to be created. Millions squandered will then begin to roll back to Vienna from every side.

# insure them yourselves,

secure an unlimited financial and commercial independence and learn the lesson from the European war that England is a wholehogger and does not believe in half measures. Who sticks up now in England for the word "fair"?

The continental Times is prepared to give tall information entirely free of charge with regard to Boarding Establishments (Pensions), Apartments to let, Schools, Doctors etc. etc.

# THE CONTINENTAL TIMES.

## JANUARY 6, 1914.

### No. 1069. Vol. XXI. No. 2

## With poisoned Weapons. A neutral Voice on the Auxiliary Troops of the French and the English.

The Swedish newspaper "Appell" has the following leading article:

In the present war the English have set much worth on despatches and reports in which the allies are represented continually as playing the rolê of victorious heroes, while the poor Germans must be content with the part of those who are constantly defeated.

Eulogies of the Black Troops. In a sensational description designed for a credulous public the black troops are given naturally a conspicuous position in the foreground.

How interesting, how picturesque and stylish their uniform! What a bearing towards the French ladies, and how they showed their splendid teeth when the Germans were mentioned!

It was reported from London that the Germans turned pale only at the sight of the darkies, and that when they fought man to man, they struck down the Germans, somewhat as a monkey cracks a nut.

Such disgusting drivelling was printed in otherwise respectable English newspapers, and telegraphed from London to all parts of the world. Even some here in Sweden swallowed down these black lies without any protest and in some cases with a certain satisfaction.

### Savages against Europeans.

Our improvers of society and enthusistic optimists saw nothing repulsive in the employment of savages against Europeans. They do not appear to have grasped what should be a self-evident fact, that the bringing of negroes into the war is nothing other than a foul business, a fighting with poisoned weapons.

A Senegalese negro cannot cherish any hatred against Germany. He is as dark in his mental capacity as in his exterior. He scarcely knows where Germany is. He allows himself to be bought as a soldier, not out of love for the soldier's life, but because the negro has a disinclination for work of every kind, and because of the money which will provide him with the few pleasures for which he longs. He is then brought into a French barrack and drilled for a few years, to be afterward sent to Europe and made to fight under the tricolor to the strains of the Marseillaise.

What is that but a slave trade and an act of barbarity. No phrases are able to disguise the fact that such hirelings can only represent a a bad cause.

The Brown join the Black.

The negroes seem however not to have produced the effect that was expected,

since proud England had to help out France with the Indians; another color must be brought on the scene.

When they landed in Europe, it was found that they were yet more picturesque, and twice as brave and savage as the negroes of Senegal.

It was telegraphed from London that at the sight of the Indians, the German were strunck completely dumb. The negroes had dazed them, but these Kipling figures took away their breath. They worked wonders in fighting and destroyed the Germans by whole regiments and battalions at a time.

What reconnoitring service they performed! How unsurpassed their new methods! They crept forward like snakes and then struck down the German sentries, who did not have time to utter a sound before the crawling heroes had cut their throats with their long knives.

These wonderful Indian knives!

Such, and other like things were telegraphed from London, the city of truth before all other cities, and served up raw to the public without a comment, without a word of indignation or horror. Yes, that is the civilised way we act in England. But-let a German shot strike a castle or a church, or any ornamental building in Belgium or France, then the press activity begins. What an outcry! Then we hear of the horror felt against barbarism. The schoolmarms mount their platforms and give lectures on culture and civilisation.

### What the English formerly thought of the Indian Kukri.

But the Indian knives were not always so admired by Great Britain. At the time of the Sepoy mutiny, when India wished to shake off the English yoke, these long sharp knives were but moderately admired by the English press

Then the English considered these knives as a symbol of barbarism and of the most contemptible cunning, as the treacherous weapon of an inferior race against a higher and more civilised one.

Now they sound a different tune! And if the hireling and halfcivilised heroes are brought from their native land, the land of the cholera, the tiger and of chronic famine, to fight in Europe on the fields of Flanders against Ger man peasants and artisans, students and merchants, against the sons of a great civilised power united for a common purpose, then of course the savages are fighting for civilisation and freedom! They are not fighting for England, which has oppressed and drained the resources of their country and bought their services! No, they fight for progress and for culture! They are fighting for the freedom of small states!

# English Fair-Mindedness.

A wounded English officer, Major P. G. Petavel, of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, who is lying in a German hospital has written the following letter to the editor of the London Times :

"So many misleading articles have appeared in the newspapers that I believe that a recital of my experience, free from personal prejudice and hearsay, would be of interest. "I was severely wounded in a rear

guard action near X. My regiment did its heroic best to carry me along. It was, however, impossible as shortly afterwards we were surrounded and suffered heavy losses. Unable to move I was lying in a field. A Prussian soldier came up to me, and expressed his regret that I was so severely wounded, and added that he was not to blame. Rehind the line of sharpshooters came a covered wagon with a medical attendant who gave me some wine, bandaged my wounds and promised to return. In a short while he did return, sent a solver for an am-bulance and had me toon to the city. An army corps had just surched in and the streets were full or to Cos; the sol-diers pressed about ine, but were very friendly and contacts. friendly and courteous. I asked one to give me something to eat, whereupon he gave me all of his bread, and would not accept any payment. My field equipment, as revolver, field glasses, etc., had been taken from me; but my money and valuables were untouched. Finally, I was taken into a stable, where some of my men and myself made ourselves comfortable on fresh straw. The Prussian soldiers were extremely kind, and looked after us as carefully as nurses. They called my men comrades, and divided with us the delicacies which they had, so that we soon enjoyed a large quantity of macroons, honey cakes, etc., and had as much wine as we could drink. A few days later I was taken to a hospital, where my wounds were examined, and I was put into a comfortable bed. In the same room with me were two German non-commissioned officers and six officers, two of whom were bedded on the floor. They treated me as one of them, and divided each private luxury with me, and we soon became such good friends that both sides were filled with regret when they were sent to Germany. Not until after they had left the French attendants found out that I was an English and not a German officer, and they overwhelmed me with attentions and champagne. Later on I was taken to Germany.

"The journey by rail lasted forty hours. A German officer did for us prerything

he could; lent us his cloak for the night and once when no food for us was obtainable, he gave us his own soup. "Here we are now in a well-equipped hospital of 450 beds. In our room there are seven English officers. The food is simple, but as a rule well prepared; no difference is made between officers and men. At 7 a m. we receive three slices of bread and butter and a mug of coffee, at noon a small helping of meat, with plenty of potatoes and another vegetable, all in a bowl. We eat this with a spoon, as the use of knives is not allowed. At 4 o'clock we receive coffee with sandwiches; and at 6 o'clock our supper consisting of soup or porridge.

"Subalterns receive a salary of 60 M. per month and officers 100 M. per month, of which two-thirds are kept back for board and treatment. Such as are severely wounded receive every attention, and the best medical aid.

"I have written this letter because I have read in English newspapers so many communications of soldiers whose reports are very inexact and who in many cases give detailed descriptions of battles, in which their regiments had no part, and tell of German atrocities which they know only from hearsay.

The Franco-British Brand of Civilization.

My name is Tommy Atkins, And i'm a husky chap, My comrade is a Cossak.

And my partner is a Jap. We 'regoing with some Gurkas And likewise with some Sikhs. Some black Algerian Turcos

And other colored treaks. And with all the bloomin' virtues For which you know we shine: We are carrying Civilization To the people on the Rhine.

## Viennese Entertainments.

At the "Theater an der Wien" Heuberger's delightfully melodious operetta "Der Opernball" was revived with great success, with Betty Fischer in the title part. Now theatrical Vienna will be happy again.

On a par with this in excellence was the production of the operetta "Boccacio' by Suppé, at the Raimund Theatre. The applause showed that Suppé's rich tuneful strains do not by any means miss fire yet. The title part was in the hands of Fräulein Zulka, who did splendidly.

Frivolity reigned supreme, when "Der Viererzug", a new comedy by Geyer and Frank held its entry on the "Neue Wiener Bühne". The piece deals with the doings of rather naughty folks. What might otherwise be a reproach is, however, amply redeemed by the perfect grace of the treatment.

### Berlin Theatres.

With fitting municipal and social pomp and circumstance the opening took place last week of the "Theater am Bülowplatz," under the auspices of the "Neue Freie Volksbühne." The play used for the christening of the new house was Bjoernson's matrimonial comedy, "Wenn der junge Wein blüht." The performance found great favour. Since then Goethes "Goetz von Berlichingen" has made its welcome appearance in the repertory. This rousing drama produced in the "storm and stress" period of the greatest man Germany has ever begotten is given a fine performance.

At the "Deutsches Theater" Shakespeare's Winter's Tale" was rendered. The artistic new setting that had been lavished upon the idyllic comedy found general admiration.

The comedy "Leutnantsmündel," by Steins performed at the "Lustspielhaus," though unpretentions from the literary point of view is clean and wholesome and productive of much mirth.

At the Win ergarten, Grete Wiesenthal's star shines forth with usual lustre. There is no gainsaying the fact that this artiste's name has become a household word in the choreographic world. The rest of the program is varied and entertaining from beginning to end.



### in the columns of the English press. They

like pillaging, robbery or dishonorable conduct, and that according to the opinion of the general commanding in chief of the army plundering in a friendly country should be met with the severest punishment provided by law, namely whipping. But such punishment should never be executed in the presence of British, European or allied troops. Apply the whip to your hearts content, but let nobody catch you in the act- this is British humanity. Diplomats cannot be too careful in their

utterances. This is again illustrated by an article in the "Paris Temps,, informing its readers that the minister representing one of the allied powers in the capital city of a neighboring state of Germany had reported to his government the remark "made by the minister representing another great ueutral power at the same captital", Germany could not live on her own provisions beyond April or May, and would be compelled to give in if the neutral countries could be prevented from supporting her with breadstuffs and provisions. It is not very difficult to guess the name of this capital city and who the "representative of another big neutral power" is. I know of some neutral ministers in foreign countries who are not overfriendly to Germany.

The "Vossische Zeitung" contains a stinging rebuke against the New York banker Jacob Schiff for his interview with the "New York Times" in which he, a German by birth and education, expressed the fear that a complete victory by Germany would involve danger for the United States. Would an American citizen of English or French birth and education be capable of expressing himself this way in the very hour when his native country was in need of the unrestricted moral support of everybody linked to it by such strong chains? Evidently, blood is not always thicker than water.

Midnight is near and the end of the fateful year of 1914 close at hand. What will 1915 bring to the United States, to Germany and to the rest of the world? Will the terrible struggle end or will the conflagration still spread further? What will the final result be? I for one hope for the best for good dear old Germany and Uncle Sam! May they be always good friends, for good and for bad, inspite of all obstacles put in the way by our common cousins across the channel. A Happy New Year to both of them!

### January 1st 1915.

The morning papers contain a New Years greeting from the Emperor for his army and navy, breathing in every word the seriousness of the times, but at the same time satisfaction of the many proud victories won during the past five months, unbroken courage, firm

resolution and undestructable confidence in the future, of new and final triumph of the German arms. He has exchanged similar telegrams with the King of Bavaria and other German potentates, with the mayor of Berlin, the presidents of the Reichstag and both houses of the Prussian diet, with commercial and industrial bodies as well as with his friend and ally the Austrian Emperor. They are all full of confidence for Germanys future. Let this be a happy omen for the year of the Lord 1915.

Some figures are published by army authorities which seem to inaugurate it with good premises for the future. Not counting a good many thousands of prisoners of war taken within the last weeks and being on the way to camps, there were in the hands of the Germans at the close of 1914 no less than 8138 officers and 577 875 men as prisoners of war of whom were Frenchmen: 3459 officers and 215 905 men; Russians: 3575 officers and 306 294 men; Belgians: 612 officers and 36 852 men; English; 492 officiers and 18824 men; among the officers were alone 28 generals. It is further stated by army headquarters that Russian official reports to the effect that the number of German prisoners of war anounted to 1140 officers and 134 700 men 'was entirely misleading. The Russians arrested at the beginning of the war a very large number of Germans who were living or travelling in Russia, and all men capable of military service or actual officers or men of the reserve are counted in that number. They captured as real prisoners of war at the highest estimate 15 percent of that number and mostly wounded officers and men. The above fignres may be better illustrated by mentioning that the strength of the battle of Getiysburgh was, in round numbers, 100 000 nor herners and 75 000 southerners, at the battle of Königgrätz (in 1866) 221 000 Prussians and 215 000 Austrians, at the battle of Sedan 125 000 Frenchmen and 220 000 Germans, at the baule of Mukden (1905) 310 000 Russians and about an equal number of Japanese. So the Russians alone have lost as prisoners of war in the hands of the Germans just the strength of their entire field

army under general Kuropatkin at Mukden, while the Austrians took at least 200 000 to 250 000 Russians as prisoners of war. All papers agree that the American note to I

the British government is by far the most important event of the day. It is certainly a very unpleasant New Years surprise for our English friends. According to all reports which reach here by way of London and are, therefore, mostly colored in a pro-English sense, its wording is so clear and umistakable, though very polite, that consternation reigns | and his wife had been insulted and molested |

had been so sure of American acquiescence in everything they saw fit to do, they had been so strongly deceived by American sympathy for England in the beginning of the war, that they overlooked the signs of the times and disregarded entirely the growing dissatisfaction in America of English disrespect of the legitimate rights of neutrals. The awakening is so much more disagreeable. They had totally forgotten the lesson received one hundred years ago and permitted themselves to be lulled by cheap resolutions and orations and letters on account of one hundred years of peace between the two English speaking peoples and other nonsense like the letter of the chairman of the American celebration committee. The English specially ought to know Americans better. They ought to know that oratory is forgotten almost as quickly as the wind dies our on a hot summer morning and that sympathetic newspaper articles sink into oblivion as soon as real live interests of the country ask for recognition,

It is reported that Germany had protested in Washington against the conduct of American consuls in Belgium, and requested the state department to recall all American consuls in Belgium, which is said to have been a great surprise for secretary Bryan, because it would involve the prognition of Belgium as a German province The report, in this shape, is sheer in tense. Firstly, Belgium could never be a siman province Belgium could never be a because there are no Go nan provinces, only Prussian or Saxon Bavarian etc. provinces. If annexed, Belgi, n would either have to be annexed by one single German state or divided up between several of them or become the common property of the Empire like Alsace Lorain. But the future of Belgium is by no means decided upon and will not be decided before the war is over, The Imperial Chancellor you Bethmann-Hollweg, who lost his wife shortly before the outbreak of the war has suffered another severe loss. His of 'est son, 22 years of age, who went to the war as first sergeant of the reserve in the first regiment of cuirassiers, and was soon promoted second lieutenant, has been killed in Poland. The man carrying such a heavy burden upon his shoulders, deserves the full sympathy of the whole world,

January 2nd 1915, English and some American papers have made a lot of fuss about the case of the American consul in Chemnitz, Saxony, who has left his post never to return. It had been reported that the consul, Frank Deedmeyer,

by the "mob" on the streets of Chemnitz simply because they were Americans, and that they had left the city and locked up the consulate after the departure of the last American. The fact is, that this man with the true Yankee name of Deedmeyer and his wife provoked mild protests on the part of some Chemnitz citizens by speaking English in public places ostentatiously while they refused to identify themselves as Americans by wearing a small American flag as did, for instance, at the request of the Embassy, all Americans in Berlin in order to avoid misunderstandings. The consul and his wife have departed and they will not return to Chemnitz. But the consulate is not locked, but in charge of another officer of the consular service who is doing the regular work required by the very close and estimate commercial relations between Chemnitz which is the centre of the German textile industry, and America. And for this very reason a good many American businessmen are still living in Chemnitz and doing business as usual.

The British fleet has suffered another heavy loss by the sinking of the big battleship "Formidable" in the channel, off Portsmouth. It is still doubtful whether she was sunk by the torpedo of a submarine boat or by a submarine t ine. But all signs indicate that a torpedo shot by a German submarine boat did the work. If so, so much the better. The naval writer of the "London Times" whom I quoted shortly ago, has solved all difficulties existing between England and America as described in the famous note of President Wilson. He says in an editorial, that the question of contraband of war must be defined in a way removing all doubts and making the duties and rights of naval officers in command of warships absolutely clear. For this purpose the best and easiest way would be to declare all articles which might be of use for a hostile country as contraband of war. Indeed, this would be the easiest, and best solution of the questionin the interest of the English! How naive our dear friends on the other side of the channel can be! To speak of the right of neutrals to trade with countries even if they are at war with England-nonsense! England rules the waves and the universe, to h . . . with the rest if it is in the interest of OldEngland! This is quite Hinglish you know.

### January 3 rd 1915.

As was to be expected the alleged request of Germany in Washington to withdraw all consuls in Belgium as a recognition of the annexation of Belgium by Germany has been cleared up. The German government has notified all neutral powers that consuls, mostly Belgian citizens themselves, accredited with

a government with whom it is at war, cannot be recognized as the proper persons to fill such offices. It simply means that such neutral countries which have appointed Belgians as consuls, should appoint citizens of their own or a neutral country to take care of their interests in Belgium while American consular officers should be instructed to recognize a de facto government with which they have to deal. This is only natural and does not involve any formal recognition of something which is not in existence.

English papers have told us that the Boer rebellion in South Africa had completely died out. Now we suddenly hear of a new proclamation of general Beyers and of a fight between Boers under generals Maritz and Kemp against British forces which were completely routed. How very reliable British press reports are when they announce the annihilation of an enemy!

### January, 4th 1915.

Italian, Dutch and Scandinavian papers are equally satisfied with the American note of protest. Evidently some informal conversation about the matter has been going on in Washington between the diplomatic representatives of these powers with the state department before the note was delivered. The Dutch minister received a copy of it and communicated the same to his government as soon as it was ready. There is already talk of some kind of a union between all neutral powers interested in the question of contraband of war. The whole American press takes a decisive stand against British impudence and overbearing. If the English government does not realize very soon what it is up against and act accordingly, it will hear an echo from across the ocean which will wake it up in a most unpleasant way. And it is high time.

The Emperor has replied to a telegram of the Pope that he readily consents to the proposal to exchange prisoners of war who are so severely wounded or invalidated that they will be unable to serve again with the colors. He adds: "The sentiment of Christian charity which has prompted this proposition is in full accordance with my own conviction and desire." Now we will wait what the heads of the truly Christian and highly cultured nations Russia, England and France will have to say in reply to the Pope's proposal. Will it be like their answer to the suggestion to stop killing human beings on Christmas: day?

It is confirmed officially that the "Formidable" has been sent to the bottom of the sea by a German submarine boat. Well done! Vivant sequentes!

Printed by R. Saling & Co, Berlin SW. 68. Published by The Continental Times G. m. b. H., Berlin W., Augsburger Strasse 38. Responsible En tor, C. White, Berlin.

# Notes and irregularities

*The continental times: special war edition* No. 1068. Vol. XXI. No. 1 January 4, 1915 Version 2 CT1068v2

- Front page has volume numbering and date: No. 1068. Vol. XXI. No. 1, January 4, 1915.
- Content of front page is identical to content of front page of versions 1 (CT1068v1) and 3 (CT1068v3).
- Back page has volume numbering and date: No. 1069. Vol. XXI. No. 2, January 6, 1914.
- Content on back does not match content on back of versions 1 (CT1068v1) or 3 (CT1068v3).
- Content on back page is identical to back page of No. 1070. Vol. XXI. No. 3 (CT1070).