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Every  
**Monday**  
**Wednesday**  
**Friday**

# The Continental Times

## Special War Edition

Every  
**Monday**  
**Wednesday**  
**Friday**

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1915.

ROTTERDAM LUCERNE BERLIN GENEVA VIENNA ROME

No. 1068. Vol. XXI. No. 1.

### 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 56000 Russians have been made prisoners and many guns and machine-guns 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 577875 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 outbreak of the war. The real number of prisoners of war should not be more than 15% 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 quick-firing-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 succeeded 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 Rawa, 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 succeeded 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 buildings were also damaged. The airmen disappeared half an hour later, rifle-fire by the garrison proving ineffective.

**Rotterdam, January 4th.** The English battleship *Foetidable* 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 Nagyg 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 England's 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 England's 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 cargo unlawfully 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 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 conveying 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 England's 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 his 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 future 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.

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 publication of "King Albert's Book" surprise has frequently been expressed that the President 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 to choose his successor.—There is a certain parallel in this highly important step with that of Napoleon, when he had himself proclaimed First Consul of the French Republic. Yuanshikai's position may now be said to be in fact, if not in name, that of a Monarch.

### 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 discussion 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 Vienna.

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 about by this war in Austria. American doctors, for instance, have sent cotton-wool to the Vienna hospitals, in acknowledgment, as Dr. James Carrol writes in the *New York Evening Sun*, of what the Vienna Medical School has done for American Medical men. The Austrian Emperor on his part conferred on Lieutenant-Commander Charles Edward Courtney of the *Albatross* and on the American Consul-General at Genoa, Mr. Edward Jones, the first Class of the Austrian Red Cross Medal of Honour.

### The General's Report.

By James Arthur Mills.

General Strunskywitskyvad Reported thus to Petrograd: "Alligazinkgazoodleze "Was captured by our cavalry. "Lalapazask, 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 magnificent 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 Strunskywitskyvad," (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?" "Miscellaneous Syndicate," *New York*.

### 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.

Washington'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 of friendship, but at the same time it lays stress upon the point of view that it 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 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 commercial commodities 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 official 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 insure your shipments

### Vienna After The War.

In a paper upon the above subject read at Vienna, that well-known author, Adam Müller-Guttenbrunn, 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 conspicuous position, amongst the great German cities of German speaking lands. Following the example of other old cities such as Francofort, Lubeck, Nuremberg it will in future be an essential task to pay greater attention to the preservation 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 nor known how 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 Krollik for the Leopoldsborg, 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 Pöchlarn. The carrying into effect of these and many other ventures would exercise an incalculable attraction upon the public of the German Empire. 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

#### becoming the German Paris.

Here the older civilization, 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 creation of new fashions, 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, industrialists 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"?



## Notes and irregularities

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- Front page has volume numbering and date: No. 1068. Vol. XXI. No. 1, January 4, 1915.
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- Back page has volume numbering and date: No. 1069. Vol. XXI. No. 2, January 6, 1914.
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