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HOTEL IMPERIAL VIENNA

The Continental Times

STOCKHOLM Grand Hotel and Grand Hotel Royal

A JOURNAL FOR AMERICANS IN EUROPE.

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LATEST NEWS SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Camp Surprised. Constantinople, Thursday. Since their last defeat at Felahie the English have not attempted any offensive.
Bulgaria and Greece. Petersburg, Thursday. According to the Retsch negotiations of the utmost importance are now being carried on between Bulgaria and Greece.
Montenegro Signs. Vienna, Thursday. The plenipotentiaries of the Montenegrin Government signed the agreement of Capitulation on Tuesday last.
Russians in Danger. London, Thursday. The Times states that the Russian position in Hamadan, since the capture of Asadabad by the Turks, has become exceedingly critical.
Dutch Line's Profits. Amsterdam, Thursday. The newspapers state that the Holland-America Steamship Line will announce a dividend of 50 per cent for the year 1915.
Renewed Danger. Amsterdam, Thursday. The Provincial Board of Northern Holland has decided to construct a large temporary dyke, running north of Amsterdam to Edam, to lessen the effects of the inundations.
Atrocious Weather. London, Thursday. Mr. Chamberlain, replying to Sir J. D. Rees, in the House of Commons, stated that the latest information received with regard to the military operations in Mesopotamia was that the weather conditions had been atrocious, and had stopped all progress.
Spain Against Blockade. Madrid, Thursday. Following the example of Sweden, the Spanish Government, through the Premier Count Romanones, has protested against the more stringent blockade threatened by the English which would be most damaging to Spanish Trade.
Murder Plot at Peking. Peking, Thursday. The existence of a dastardly plot to murder Yuan-Shi-Kai has just been discovered.
Colonel House in Berlin. Colonel House the friend of President Wilson who has come on a special political mission to Europe, has arrived in Berlin and is a guest of Judge Gerard at the American Embassy.
Candid Writing. Paris, Thursday. The Temps published an article in which it refers to the action at Neuville during which the Germans captured several hundred metres of the French trenches.
Russia Blames Italy. Petersburg, Thursday. The Novoe Vremia places the blame for the collapse of Montenegro upon Italy.

AT SALONICA



The old gods still live. General Sarraf, the Pythoness, enacts the role of the Oracle. Drawn for the C.T. by the famous cartoonist A.M. CAY.

America Much Annoyed With England.

Perpetual Harassing of United States Commerce Proving Too Much For American Patience. New Note From Washington to Downing Street. Words of Warning in the "Evening Post" By Aubrey Stanhops.

Every American arriving here of late tells the same tale, that the people of the United States are becoming exceedingly tired and very impatient of the action of Great Britain as regards the American commerce with Neutral Countries. They tell that the true sentiment existing in America upon the subject of the policy of England as regards the holding up of neutral trade, is not fully known here, for the reason that, just the same as the English seek in every way to prevent the Americans from becoming acquainted with the financial, military and other successes of Germany, so in the contrary sense, and being in possession of the cables, the British strive in every manner possible to conceal from Germany the ever growing wave of sympathy which is passing over the United States in favor of this country. That is what is told amongst others by a well known and highly experienced American newspaper man who has recently arrived here.
A Strong Note. Over two months ago the American Cabinet, after careful deliberation, sent a long and exceedingly emphatic Note to the British Government. Rarely in the history of nations has such a sharply worded political document been handed from the government of one country to that of another. Its main points were the insistence that Great Britain was acting illegally in detaining upon suspicion American ships bound for neutral countries; that America did not recognize the blockade announced by England as efficient, that the rights of the Neutral Countries had been violated and that in the future the American Government had decided to stand as the champion and defender of the rights of the Neutrals.
Defying American Wishes. Since the delivery of the American Note of November, England has not even deigned to make any reply. But, on the contrary, as though desirous of showing America how little the official protest of that country, as contained in the Note, affected the British Government, even more harsh measures than had existed formerly were applied to Neutral commerce. The Mail from the United States to neutral countries was seized and confiscated and the Neutral lands themselves

placed under new and still more severe arbitrary restrictions as regards their food and other supplies. It had come to such a point of late that Greece, Denmark, Holland, Sweden and Norway have literally been treated as though they were vassal countries completely under the control of England. And naturally, all such acts constitute nothing more nor less than a bold defiance of the American Note of November which informed Great Britain that the United States Government had determined to stand as champion of the rights of the Neutral Nations and to protect them against illegal measures on the part of the belligerents.
Anger in United States. Whilst all those illegal acts upon the part of the British Government have been taking place, important Senators at Washington have been agitating and calling upon the President for a more decided and decisive attitude as regards Great Britain. The vast cotton interests of the South have been brought to bear upon the Administration and they are of a kind which neither President Wilson nor his Cabinet can afford to ignore, much less to defy. Likewise the great Chicago meat interests have taken action, till finally yet another Note, instigated by the provocation given by England in announcing its intention to still further accentuate the Blockade, is now sent from Washington to Downing Street for the immediate consideration of the British Government.
Mr. Page, the American Ambassador to the Court of St. James, has been instructed by the Washington Cabinet to hand to the Government of Great Britain, a Note which expresses strong objection to any construction of the law as regards trade with the enemy, of a nature damaging to the commerce of the United States.
The Reuter Agency, which reflects the wishes of the Government, seeks to minimise the gravity of the latest American Note and gives out that America is likely to be satisfied with a claim for damages for harm done to American Trade. That however is scarcely likely because in the former note it was distinctly made clear that the American Government was not satisfied to accept the compensation offered by the English Prize Courts.

What the American Government now insists upon is that any further blow to Germany which England may now seek to inflict upon German trade must necessarily affect American Commerce, and therefore that the United States will consider such action on the part of England as disloyal toward America.
Press Opinion. New York, Thursday. Under the heading "Growing bitterness against England", the Evening Post publishes a Washington despatch in which the sender refers to the narrow minded policy of the English in the Balkans which led them into such misfortune and says that the English are now following an equally short sighted policy in their dealings with the United States, a fact which they will very soon be made to realize. For England no longer dominates the situation in America as was the case some months ago. If the English cousins should come to find public opinion in America turning completely against them, in consequence of the complications which cloud the political horizon and which threaten to circumscribe American trade, they will not have to blame either the Ridders or the Dernburgs, but themselves alone.
The Post Correspondent goes very fully into the question of the opinion existing in Washington amongst the highest officials as also in the Cabinet, and amongst many leading personages in Congress who are identified with the Government: and says that the regrettable deduction which must necessarily be drawn is, that there exists an ever growing sentiment of repugnance against the English because of their apparent inability to grasp the point of view of the Americans, or perhaps that they seem unwilling to realize the full importance of the existing situation.
Dutch Distrust Rotterdam, Thursday. Dutchmen begin to feel that they are being rather badly treated in regard to this subject of the effectiveness or otherwise of the British blockade. They resent bitterly the constant suggestion in a part of the English Press that Holland is making tremendous profits out of trading with Germany by underhand methods.

Trebitch Lincoln Vanishes

Mysterious Escape of the Ex British Member of Parliament. Hoodwinks His Guardian and Disappears. New York, Thursday. Ignatius Trebitch Lincoln who had at one period of his strange career represented an English constituency in Parliament, has just made an extraordinary and mysterious escape from custody. He had been arrested on a charge of forgery made by Benjamin Rowntree and others. Lincoln had given out that he was familiar with a certain German secret code and he had been used to translate documents in connection with the supposed German espionage system in the United States. But the Washington authorities deny that the help he gave was of any consequence and state that the documents were not disturbed; but newspaper reports persist in stating that simultaneously with Lincoln's escape, a portfolio of invaluable papers, which was in the possession of the Federal authorities, also disappeared. Officials have intercepted a letter written by Lincoln, on Monday, from New York, and, basing their opinion on this clue, the detectives believe that Lincoln is hiding in the vicinity.
Mysterious Disappearance. Further details now available regarding the ex-M. P.'s disappearance only increase the mystery surrounding the actual circumstances of Lincoln's escape. While the officer who accompanied him to the restaurant where he was last seen, insists that he stood outside the door of the lavatory to which Lincoln retired, examination has shown that there was only one exit to the lavatory, and that the two barred skylight windows had not been disturbed.
Another significant disclosure is reported, namely, the presence in the restaurant of an intimate friend of Lincoln, at the time of his escape.

Another Version. Here is another version given of the case: When extradition was obtained by the British Government, he appealed to a higher court. Pending re-hearing of his case, he had apparently been making himself very useful to the authorities by translating German literature and giving information regarding German propaganda, and, although officially denied, it is suggested that the prisoner was really allowed to escape. Lincoln was having a drink with his custodian while proceeding from the court house to gaol. "When I turned round," said his custodian, "the darned Dutchman had skidaddled. We looked everywhere in the building, but could not find him." Asked why he had not been more careful, the custodian replied that Lincoln had given his word of honour not to escape. It was not until forty-eight hours after Lincoln's escape that the Deputy-Marshal notified his superiors of the fact. Lincoln has always insisted that England wants to execute him because of his book, "Revelations of an International Spy." It is presumed that he will try to reach South America.

The report from an American source that England intends to regard Rotterdam and other Dutch ports as, in effect, German import harbors, with blockade as the logical consequence, at first created considerable anxiety here. Dutchmen, in fact find it impossible to believe that England would even contemplate such a step, moreover, as a leading commercial man whom I interviewed said, "What practical difference would it make from your point of view? We are blockaded now, so far as importing goods for transit to Germany is concerned. To treat our ports as German would do no good, and would certainly do tremendous harm from the political point of view. I refuse to believe that the British Government even contemplates such action."

Wall Street Opinion New York, Thursday. The reported British blockade plans attract considerable attention in Wall Street, but financial comment is reserved. Protests from this country are, of course, expected, but it is not believed that they will accomplish anything. "When it comes to contraband and blockades," says the Wall Street Journal to-day, "there is little that neutrals can claim as their right. Men or nations fighting for life, are not much concerned over a basket of eggs on the arm of a third party. We ourselves set a precedent in our Civil War blockade."

## The Continental Times

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### England Plays With Fire.

When England undertakes to systematically ignore the wishes of the United States as regards the treatment of neutral trade, then the Cabinet of St. James is risking much and treading on the thinnest of political ice. The United States, more than two months ago, served upon Great Britain a most pronounced and clearly worded Note, the tenor of which there could be no mistaking. It told the British Government that the United States could not accept as legal the Blockade of the German coasts announced by England, it denied the right of the English to seize ships with cargoes destined for neutral countries, and it ended up by stating that the United States had decided to stand as the Champion of the rights of the Neutrals.

The Cabinet over which Mr. Asquith presides has, in the first place, offended the susceptibilities of the Washington Government by failing to give an answer to that Note, the urgency of which was evident to all. As the influential *Evening Post* of New York says: "The English are apparently unable to realise the seriousness of the existing situation." The probability is that they do not want to, for it is a favourite policy of the Government in England to gain time by ignoring as long as possible disagreeable political warnings such as the American Note in question.

But, there cannot be the slightest doubt, that in attempting to avoid considering the American point of view in the question of the commerce with neutrals, the Asquith Cabinet is playing with fire and may very easily burn its fingers badly. The *Evening Post* Correspondent tells of the ever growing bitterness in Washington amongst the high officials and leading politicians as regards the failure of the English Cabinet to realise the excessive danger of the existing situation. Sir Edward Grey not only does not deign to make reply to the so urgent Note complaining of the illegality of the Blockade, but as though to provoke the already irritated feeling existing in the United States against English methods, it is announced that the Blockade is to be made much more strict. In other words the trade of the Neutrals, already so terribly harassed, is to be still further restricted and damaged. That is a kind of wanton and untimely provocation which it is evident the Americans are not going to submit to. A new Note has therefore been sent to Downing Street and it is ear-marked "Urgent." The Americans are very tired of being dominated by the English, they are becoming embittered at the obstinacy of the Britons and should the Cabinet of St. James fail to reply promptly and satisfactorily to the latest American Note, of a surety there is a whole lot of trouble in store. For the Americans, once they have made up their minds to anything, have a characteristic and oft disagreeable way of dealing with the political opponent, an experience which Great Britain has several times passed through.

### Russia Surprised.

It may seem strange, but it appears certain that the sudden collapse of Montenegro came as a complete surprise to Russia, which country appears to have expected a far greater resistance from the small mountain Kingdom than that which King Nikola's soldiers were able to give. In Russia, according to the *Novoe Vremia*, there existed a belief that the Kingdom of the Black Mountains was impregnable. And so it would have been to an ordinary army. But amongst the Austro-Hungarian troops there are men of all sorts and amongst those who accomplished the most remarkable work of capturing Montenegro in such a short period, were a small army of men from the Mountains who knew just as much about guerrilla warfare as the Montenegrins themselves. Those were just exactly the type of soldiers the Montenegrins had not reckoned with.

But the Russians are also surprised that Scutari fell without any resistance. One wonders why! Russia must have known that the Servians who held the town were utterly exhausted and that they had not a fight left in them.

Russia accuses the Italians of being guilty for the collapse of the Montenegrins by not having brought up artillery and reinforcements, forgetting that Cadorna had stated that he had not a man to spare. The Italians on their side, ask what the Russians were doing in undertaking a futile series of assaults in a corner of Bukowina, when they might have sent their army to the aid of Montenegro. And so it goes, the everlasting *tu quoque*.

## St. John Gaffney Gives Interview

Ex Consul General to Munich Makes Statement Concerning His Resignation Will Refute Charges. Off to Washington to Face Any Accusations Made Against Him by the State Department

As the readers of the *Continental Times*, are aware, Mr. St. John Gaffney, the well known American Consul General to Munich, recently went to the United States in order to meet the unexplained charges which led President Wilson to call for his resignation.

Apropos of Mr. Gaffney's return to the United States several newspapers publish the following:

T. St. John Gaffney, until recently Consul General for the United States at Munich, arrived here today on the steamship Oscar II from Copenhagen. Mr. Gaffney said that he would go to Washington Monday or Tuesday to take up the charges against him with the state department.

Of these charges he said he was officially ignorant. In a written statement given out by him on his arrival here, he said he was attacked in his absence 3,500 miles away, condemned without a hearing, and his resignation asked. The statement in part follows:

### How it Began

Mr. Gaffney thinks the trouble started with a story which the "Morning Post" of London printed August 12, based on a wire from its correspondent in Berne, to the effect that he had been rude to Americans in Berlin and Munich. Fleet Street correspondents cabled to papers in New York, one of which also printed that a New York Irishman attempted to send a secret letter to him by the Austrian Consul General.

Mr. Gaffney said that, as far as he can classify them, the attacks are:

Rudeness to Americans and British in Munich.  
Smuggling secret letter.  
Commending Berlin paper which attacked Wilson.

Dining Sir Roger Casement.  
Approving newspaper attack on Bryan.  
He says that in the time of mobilization his office was in necessary turmoil. The work increased tenfold in four or five days. In a few days more the volume swelled again when British interests were committed to his charge. Willing but untrained volunteers in the consulate may have occasionally been rude, but no complaint was made to him at the time. Personally he was unkind to no one.

Of the secret letter which it is alleged was handed in to the Austrian Consulate General in New York City, he knows nothing. Such was not received by him and if handed in he cannot be held responsible, he says.

### Unfounded Accusation.

As to the third charge, commending the *Continental Times* of Berlin, accused of attacking President Wilson, he says that he praised the paper's war book, not the paper. The war book contained articles by American professors and Theodore Roosevelt and nothing attacking Wilson or the administration. The paper has denied editorially that he ever wrote for it.

As for the fourth, he says that he gave a private lunch for Professor George B. McClellan, former mayor of New York, at whose request he invited Sir Roger Casement. No speeches were made and Sir Roger's standing with Britain or Germany was not discussed.

As to approving a newspaper attack on Bryan, Mr. Gaffney says that he knows nothing of either the attack or his alleged approval.

### Cannot Conjecture.

He says that if these are not the charges on file at the state department he cannot even conjecture what the charges are.

Mr. Gaffney also said he had a number of documents and testimonials from prominent Americans as well as English people at Munich as to his conduct. These included, he said, a copy of a cablegram sent to the state department by members of the American colony asking that he have a hearing, and a copy of a cablegram from members of the English colony denying alleged "biased treatment of English."

### TOO FRANK IN SPEECH.

Privy Councillors escape the fees of honour which fall rather heavily on the recipients of other titles. Charles Greville records that when he was Clerk to the Council, Lord Clarendon called with a cheque to settle the fees due upon his elevation to the rank of P.C. "What a good fellow you are," exclaimed Greville unguardedly. "You have no idea of the trouble I have to get the fees from some people; and, you know, I have no legal right of recovery." "Haven't you?" said Lord Clarendon, and promptly threw his cheque into the fire. Since then it would be interesting to know if any P.C. has paid his fee.

## Correspondence of Prisoners of War

Twelve Million of Letters and Post Cards Per Month. One Hundred and Fifty Camps Each Averaging Ten Thousand Men

The Weekly Report of the American Association of Commerce and Trade publishes the following interesting article concerning the mail matter of prisoners of war in this country:

Of all belligerent countries, Germany has the greatest number of prisoners of war, and therefore the amount of mail received and sent out by these prisoners has reached enormous proportions.

At the present time there are in Germany more than 150 camps for prisoners of war, each numbering on the average 10,000 men, sometimes considerably more. These prisoners of war are afforded certain privileges in regard to the use of the mails, such privileges corresponding to those granted to German soldiers held as prisoners of war by other belligerents.

The difficulties, presenting themselves in the handling of the piles of mail matter of prisoners of war in Germany are, not only the great quantity that is handled daily, but it is a fact that the mail matter, originating from almost all quarters of the globe, bears the address in a foreign tongue, addresses which are only too often misspelled and badly written. Owing to the fact that during war-time direct communication between belligerent countries is eliminated, the mail for prisoners of war in Germany is forwarded by the postal departments of the neutral states.

In the case of prisoners of war in Germany, the mail from France, French Colonies and Territories, from Serbia and Montenegro is forwarded by the postal department of the Government of Switzerland.

The mail from Great Britain, her Dominions and Territories is forwarded by the Dutch Government, while Sweden attends to the mail from Russia. The same postal departments forward the mail in the opposite directions, that is the mails for prisoners of war in Germany to their respective countries.

It goes without saying that every letter or other mail matter, addressed to a prisoner of war in Germany, in order to reach its destination as quickly as possible, should bear the name of the camp where the prisoner of war is detained. This primary rule, however, is very often overlooked, and the volume of such mail matter—bearing insufficient address—is increased, furthermore, by the fact that France does not issue nor publish any official casualty lists.

What is the result of the latter fact, deplorable as it is? The French soldier who has not been heard from by his family or relations is either assumed to be dead or taken prisoner or may be missing. His relations, eager to get word from him, and to relieve their anxiety, resort to the mails and address their sons or brothers as a prisoner of war in Germany. Such letters bear frequently even the number of a detention camp, because the sender happens to know somebody in his home town who has a relative in this particular camp. He reasons that there is more than one camp in Germany where Frenchmen or Englishmen are held.

On the other hand, the great number of detention camps in Germany forbids at the outset sending insufficiently addressed messages from one camp to the other until the right addressee has been found.

In order to cope with the mail that cannot readily be delivered for lack of sufficient address or for some other reason, the German postal department has established a central office in Berlin, where such mail matter is sorted and corrected in regard to address, whence the mail is speedily directed to its proper destination.

A card index, numbering 1,200,000 names, has been installed at the above mentioned central office. These cards bear the names of 900,000 Russians and 300,000 French, Belgians and white and colored British subjects.

Each card contains the name of the detention camp or the hospital, as is the case; the full name of the prisoner, his military charge, his troop, regiment, company and country. The cards are filled out in the camps by prisoners of war of the respective countries.

It is a curious fact that the mail from Russia is addressed more carefully than from any other of the belligerent countries, although some 3,000 letters per day bear incomplete addresses. Postal cards form the majority of all mail matter received. Some 30,000 letters and postal cards are received daily at the central office in Berlin, addressed in Russian. Some 12,000 parcels are received in Berlin from Russia every month.

The German postal department, with the exception of Bavaria and Wurttemberg, handles each day 4.5 millions of letters and postals, sent prisoners of war in Germany, and 7 millions of such mail matter that has been received in Germany from the belligerents.

Last month's record shows that Russian prisoners of war sent and received 3.4 million letters and postal cards, French and Belgians 7.2 millions, and white and colored British something like 1.2 millions. This totals about 12 million each month.

## AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

Extraordinary Difficulties of the Montenegrin Campaign Over Roadless Districts. Opinions of Neue Freie Presse.

### Capture of Cetinje

Necessary for Protection of Frontier. Was Hotbed of Treacherous Intrigue For Attack on Monarchy.

Vienna, Thursday. People here are all busy discussing the remarkable difficulties which our troops overcame in the recent victorious campaign in Montenegro.

The ever wide awake *Neue Freie Presse* welcomes the Austrian success at Cetinje, after the capture of the three other Allied capitals Brussels, Warsaw and Belgrade.

The *Freie Presse* says;

A war against Montenegro is a very difficult strategic enterprise, in spite of the relatively small population of the country, which, by the treaties that concluded the recent Balkan wars, was increased to about half a million souls. With the exception of a very small cultivatable area, the country may be said to consist for the most part of almost impassable mountains and heaps of stones, with no roads and few practicable pathways. There is only one line of railway, which starts from Virpazar and runs in the direction of the Lake of Scutari. That is why, in spite of the fact that the Montenegrins from time to time made sudden descents on their neighbours, Cetinje has not seen an enemy for the last 130 years. The last time the Turks were in possession of it in 1785, when they burned it to the ground.

### Security of Frontiers.

The capture of Cetinje means, so far as the Dual Monarchy is concerned, that our army has now completed an operation which our Emperor particularly emphasized in the manifesto he issued at the beginning of the war—that is to say, it has carried out a campaign which, when peace is concluded, will ensure the security of our frontiers. Montenegro, encouraged by Russia and by Italy, has continually threatened our borders. Even before Italy joined the Entente Powers, and when the statesmen in Rome and Vienna were exchanging Notes, the Italians were sending big guns and ammunition to Montenegro for the defence of Mount Lovchen. It is not supposed that the Government itself was directly involved in this, but there is no doubt that several prominent Italians were. Through Cetinje, in other words, two Great Powers carried on their treacherous preparations for an attack on Austria-Hungary. King Nicholas has always been on close terms of friendship with Russia, and not many years ago he entered upon very amiable relations with the Royal family of Serbia. At a still later date the influence of the Entente Powers made itself felt, with the consequence that the policy of Montenegro was directed against the Dual Monarchy. It was therefore impossible for this campaign to come to an end without our making sure of the safety of our possessions in Dalmatia, and also of the safety of our harbour at Cattaro.

### The Change of Ministry.

The *Neues Wiener Tagblatt* tells how the change of Government in Montenegro made peace possible as follows:

The change of government in Montenegro, with the formation of a new Cabinet under Dr. Lazar Mijuskovich, was of extraordinary importance in view of the political situation in Cetinje. The Cabinet under General Vukotich, who had resigned, was a War Cabinet pure and simple. The Prime Minister was a cousin of Queen Milena of Montenegro, and as such was closely related to the Royal House. He had always been known to be the head of the military elements in Montenegro, and was invariably summoned by the King to take charge of State affairs when the country was threatened by a dangerous political situation—as, for example, when there was trouble with the Nationalists and the Pan-Serbians in 1907. Dr. Mijuskovich, who now takes the place of General Vukotich as head of the Cabinet, is also a man upon whom King Nicholas relies, but not quite in the same way. He comes of a very old Montenegrin family, and is known to be of a very conciliatory disposition. He has previously held office, and was known as a sound Minister of Finance who always made it his aim to avoid war. It may therefore be assumed that the new Cabinet is a sign that King Nicholas, in view of the opposition to the war by the clans inhabiting districts threatened by the Austrian troops, sought thus a way out of his difficulties.

### Albanians Thankful.

It is now quite evident that the Albanian campaign is going to be a great success. Already upon the taking of Scutari, the resident Albanians, headed by the Bishop of Soppa, Georg Koleci, and the former Governors of Valona, at once drew up a message to the Emperor Franz Josef in which they tendered their heartiest thanks to the Monarch for freeing the city from the tyranny of the Servians and Montenegrins. The message which was despatched in the form of a telegram, paid tribute to the great courage displayed by the Austro-Hungarian troops and expressed the profound hope

## 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, if so desired. The *Continental Times* is not responsible for the opinions of the 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.

### No British Leaders.

To The Editor.

There is no man yet in Britain who would have the courage to put the case of the British people clearly. Let us therefore try to do it—The British nation as well as the whole Empire has made very great sacrifices indeed in proportion to their originally contracted share. Moreover, the people would readily make even more sacrifices if any reasonable argument could convince them of their utility;—even if the people would have to submit to that idol of every British nationalist: Compulsion.

But every Briton feels that the game is up. They have witnessed the great efforts but feeble results of their general staff—and have seen how little the French general staff,—so vastly superior to their own,—could achieve against the splendid work done by the German General Staff. Therefore they lost all confidence in their own military leaders and every Briton, who knows the truth, admires the achievements of the German Commanders in Chief. They realise the uselessness and waste which would be the result if by force of law say an additional million men would be sacrificed to the incapacity of their politico-military leaders. There is no doubt, that with a Hindenburg or Mackensen at their head, the Britons would offer the last drop of their blood and gladly accept compulsion—but there is no denying, that they are not prepared to submit to militarism for the people without having the advantages of militarism at the head. It is the chaotic, impotent military leadership which defeats compulsion in Britain. The Briton feels that by offering himself and his fellow citizens at the altar of the British General Staff's military incompetency as "Kanonenfutter", he does not help his country to victory, but to utter ruin. The common-sense of the Briton declares against compulsion.

Zurich, Jan. 12th.

Illyricus.

### The Ford Mission.

To The Editor:

I do not quite agree with what is said in a recent letter you published concerning the Ford Mission. I think that most of us, both Americans and Germans, are on the same standpoint. Why does Mr. Ford and his companions not stop those large shipments of war material first and then start an expedition of peace in Europe?

That would be far better and more successful.

In a trench of the World War.  
Argonnen. Kramer,  
Vizelfeldwebel d. R.

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

### Those Pious Advocates.

To The Editor.

Now that the neutrality of helpless Greece is trampled so ruthlessly under foot by the English at Salonica and on the various Greek islands that have been seized by British forces, let me recall a pious sentiment voiced by a group of English divines in a joint open letter addressed to Professor von Harnack shortly after the outbreak of the present world war.

In that famous round robin letter such eminent Anglican and Presbyterian clergymen as the Reverends Herbert Andrews, Darlow, Forsyth, Gillies, MacLeod, MacPhail, Ramsay, Roberts, Scullard, Selbie and Stead, expressed this sentiment: "The steady extension of neutralisation appears to us to be one of the surest ways to the progressive elimination of war from the face of the earth."

That sentiment was uttered in regard to Belgium and her pretended neutrality and was brought forward as a part of a passionate plea for England's self-imposed task to accord protection to all little peoples.

Now that little Greece finds herself in such sad plight from Britain's armed forces on her shores, those pious advocates of the sacred principle of neutrality seem to have nothing to say.

Evidently it makes all the difference whose ox is gored.  
Mageburg. Charles Masterson.

that in the future Kaiser Franz Josef would take the Albanian people under his august protection. He estimated that like welcome will be found everywhere in Albania.

At the same time the notables of Scutari sent telegrams to Archduke Friedrich, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron Burian, the Chief of the General Staff, Freiherr Conrad von Hötendorf and the Minister of War, Freiherr von Krobatin.



