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The Continental Times

A JOURNAL FOR AMERICANS IN EUROPE.

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LATEST NEWS SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Negotiations That Failed

Bucharest, Sunday. All negotiations between Roumania and Russia, upon the question of Bessarabia have fallen through.

High Prices in Bucharest

Bucharest, Sunday. Thousands of people of the working classes crowded to the Town Hall in order to make complaint to the Mayor as regards the high price of provisions.

Seine Overflows

Paris, Sunday. The Seine has risen and is overflowing its banks in many directions. All the quays of the river in Paris are under water and traffic on the Seine has been suspended.

Supposed Naval Battle

Copenhagen, Sunday. A constant and fierce cannonading has been heard from the North point of Jutland. In the Northern direction columns of smoke are visible.

Veniseles with King

London, Sunday. The Daily Mail announces from Athens that M. Veniseles has had an audience with the King which has had no political results.

King Ferdinand at Coburg

Vienna, Sunday. The King of Bulgaria, after a stay of eleven days in Vienna has gone to Coburg on a visit to his relations there. The King took with him his two sons.

Heavy Snowstorm

Paris, Sunday. There have been specially heavy snowstorms in the south east and north east of France owing to which communications have in a large measure been cut off with the Capital from outside.

Interned Consuls Freed

Geneva, Sunday. The Austro-Hungarian Consul in Salonica, who has up to now been interned at Toulon, has been here and after a short stay started for Bern on his way to Vienna.

Merchants for Peace

Manchester, Sunday. Thirty-three of the leaders of the Manchester chamber of Commerce who wished to resign, because their petition in favor of peace was negatived, have been persuaded to withdraw their resignations.

Krupp Deliveries

Bucharest, Sunday. It is interesting enough to know, that the firm of Krupp, in spite of the vast war orders it had in hand for home delivery, was able in 1915 to deliver 7,000 field kitchens in perfect order to the Roumanian Government.

English at Kut el Amara

Amsterdam, Sunday. According to news received from London General Aylmer finds it impossible to connect with General Townshend who is shut up in Kut el Amara. He is however arranging for a regular aeroplane service. Bad weather makes operations most difficult.

Greek Denial

Rome, Sunday. The Greek Legation here denies the truth of an interview stated to have been given in Sofia in which the Greek Minister was reported to have said that Greece would remain neutral, no matter whether the Bulgarians went to Salonica or not. The Greek Minister in Sofia, it is said, made no such statement.

Flight of Essad Pasha

Brindisi, Sunday. Essad Toptani, formerly known as Essad Pasha, has arrived here. He came in an Italian torpedo boat. Reports vary as to whether he came of his own free will or was brought over by the Italians in order to avoid his selling himself to the Austrians.

Big Rise in Freights

London, Sunday. Instead of the price of freights going down, as we expected following upon the government announcement of government control, they have risen very noticeably. Freights to Genoa for instance have risen from 67 1/2 to 85 shillings; to Bordeaux, from 36 to 47 1/2; to Rouen, from 27 to 32 shillings per ton of coal.

Signal Book Gone
The Hague, Sunday. The Signal Book of the American destroyer "Hull" has suddenly disappeared. The responsible officers are to be tried by court martial.

New American Ambassador
New York, Sunday. The new American Ambassador to Petersburg will be Mr. David Rowland Francis who was Secretary of the Interior in the Cleveland Cabinet.

Expensive Ship
London, Sunday. The German built steamer "Senegambia", 3,780 tons, has been sold to a Frenchman for £73,000. In peace time she would have been well paid for with £20,000.

The "Westburn"
Amsterdam, Sunday. According to the accounts of the sailors aboard the "Westburn" English and French war ships on several occasions passed quite near to the steamer after it was in German hands, not in the least suspecting anything wrong. When the "Westburn" came into the harbor of Santa Cruz an English steamer started out in pursuit of a ship which had been reported as being in German hands. Finally, as is known, the prize crew took the ship some way out to sea and blew her up, the men returning to Teneriffa in boats.

**ITALY REQUISITIONS
GERMAN SHIPS**
London, Sunday. In the House of Commons, Mr. Runciman announced that the Italian Government had requisitioned 30 German ships lying in Italian harbors.

Annoyed With England
New York, Sunday. The Associated Press announces from Washington that the officials of the State Department are much annoyed at the failure of England to reply to the recent American Notes, firstly the one concerning trade with neutrals, secondly that upon the subject of the stopping and retention of mail matter.

**Forthcoming
U-Boat War**
Germany Thoroughly Decided to Carry Out the U-Boat Programme as Notified to the Neutral Countries

The Norddeutsche Zeitung publishes a communication which does away with all doubts as to the attitude of Germany as regards armed merchant ships and their treatment, as follows:

In spite of the very clear declarations of the Secretary of State von Jagow, doubt still appears to exist, as to whether the Principles enunciated in the Memorandum of Feb. 10 in the published declaration concerning the treatment of armed merchant ships will be carried out. Such doubts are incomprehensible and have no foundation. There has never been the slightest intention to defer the measures announced in the Memorandum. The energetic pursuance of our U-Boat war, on the principles as announced in the Memorandum will commence on the date announced.

The President's Letter
As regards the letter of Mr. Wilson to Senator Stone, in which the Chief Executive states that the proposals of Germany are a breach of international rights the Allgemeine replies:

There is nothing in the German Memorandum which can be taken as in being a breach of the laws of nations. For, accompanying the Memorandum, there is the secret order given by the British Naval department to the ships' Commanders, not only how to defend themselves but also how to attack, and many other details. It is therefore evident that those ships, according to international law, have ceased to belong to the class of ships of peace. On the other hand the attitude of our enemy is a gross breach of international law, for he has committed warlike acts with merchant ships upon the high seas, and those ships have thus become ships of war.

President Wilson in his letter to Senator Stone asserts that the measures which have been announced as about to be taken against armed merchant ships contradict the assurances given by Germany and Austria-Hungary, but that must evidently be a mistake. For those assurances were given concerning unarmed and peaceful passenger ships, but not those that are armed for attack. Undoubtedly the misunderstanding is based upon the fact that the Memorandum together with the documents containing the proof has not yet reached the hands of the American Government and therefore has not passed under the judgment of President Wilson.

Unexpected Strange Action By Portugal

All the German Ships Anchored in the Tagus Boarded and Taken Possession of by The Portuguese Government. Extraordinary Conduct Supposed to be Due to English Machinations. Curious Explanation Given

The Portuguese Government has seized 35 German ships anchored in the Tagus! We had grown more or less accustomed to the grossest breaches of rights of small neutral nations perpetrated by the Allies, the occupation of Rhodes, Mytilene, Salonica, Corfu and lastly the landing of troops of the Entente Powers at Patras. All that was undoubtedly strictly against the laws of neutrality, just as was the arresting of foreign consuls in Greek territory. But at all events there existed the clear fact, that the nations who were thus violating the neutral rights of Greece, were at war, that their position was becoming each day more desperate and that force of circumstances might possibly render it necessary for them to act in the manner they had done.

But now, in this action of Portugal, there comes to light one of the most glaring examples of breach of neutrality, and on this occasion by a country which cannot have the slightest justification for its action. The seizure by Portugal of 35 German steamers, most of them having sought refuge in the Tagus when the war broke out, is an incredible act of unprovoked infringement of international law, and at the same time a display of cowardice, which after all may not be surprising in a people such as the Portuguese, who, like the Serbians, have the stigma of Regicide attached to their names.

A Surprise
The first announcement of the intentions of the Portuguese Government came in the publication in Lisbon, in the Governmental newspaper, that the Portuguese Government intended to utilise the German ships which had sought refuge in Portuguese waters and a decision to that effect had been sanctioned by the Ministry.

Following that vague statement, the Portuguese Admiralty sent a strong force of armed men, who boarded the German ships as they lay at anchor in the Tagus, insisted upon the men aboard leaving and hoisted the Portuguese flag at the masthead of each ship. When that most extraordinary and unwarrantable breach of International Law had been completed, the Portuguese flagship fired a salute of twenty-one guns. Why it is difficult to comprehend.

The Temps announces that the whole seizure took place without the least trouble. Two ships of the Portuguese war squadron took their positions in front of where the German ships were anchored so that any attempt at opposition was quite impossible. The seizure was made in the name of the Minister of marine. Officers of the Portuguese navy were placed in command of the ships. The Germans who had been living aboard the ships were taken ashore and the steamers completely occupied by officers and sailors of the Portuguese navy.

Nothing Wrong Meant
Lisbon, Sunday. The Government has given it out that the taking over of the German Merchant ships has no particular significance, it being merely a measure taken in general interests, and that the Portuguese Minister in Berlin will give satisfactory explanations.

POSITION TAKEN BY PORTUGAL

The Portuguese Minister has called at the Foreign Office and given assurances that the action of his Government must not be taken as signifying a hostile action upon the part of Portugal, but rather as a necessary measure for the general well-being of that country.

From what is heard, the Portuguese Government takes its stand upon the terms of clause 2 of a Commercial and Shipping agreement between Germany and Portugal, signed in 1908. The clause is exceedingly vague and after firstly reciting that

Capture of Armored Fort Douaumont

The Important Corner Fortification of the Main Ring Protecting Verdun Captured by Assault of the Brandenburg Infantry Regiment Number 24

After three days fighting, one of the most important of the main ring of forts about Verdun has been taken by storm by the 24th Brandenburg Infantry Regiment.

From one end of Germany to the other, and the joy is shared throughout Austria-Hungary, the great military feat so accomplished is being celebrated, and everywhere the hope is felt that this success is only the beginning of a series of movements which will lead to the ending of the Great Campaign.

Only yesterday the French and English expert military writers were telling through their respective newspapers and publications, that, although it was true the Germans had made a considerable advance and had taken many fortified positions to the north of Verdun, the capture of any part of the main fortresses was quite out of the question. And yet, scarce was the ink dry on the paper upon which they penned those words, when Douaumont is taken by storm. One wonders what they will say by way of excuse now.

All Planned Beforehand
In truth the fighting which led up to the taking of the keystone fortress of the most modern and most powerfully defended fortress in France, began as early as the 21st of the month. It was but a comparatively small movement, 800 metres of trenches were taken. And each day since the Germans have steadily advanced increasing the force of their artillery and men as they progressed. On Wednesday the news came that 3,000 French prisoners had been taken, on Thursday it mounted to 7,000, on Friday ten thousand. It had all been planned in advance and was carefully and methodically carried out. It is a great triumph for the Crown Prince and one which stamps him as a military leader of the first order.

The Douaumont Fort
The Douaumont fort which has fallen may be called the north east corner stone of the series of forts which go to make up an entire chain protecting Verdun. As one of the military writers remarks so truly, V. S. in the B. Z., the first fort is always the most difficult to capture. The rest generally fall with considerable rapidity after the primary gap has been made. Fort Douaumont is situated just eight kilometres from the town of Verdun itself and is a little north of the main road which leads from Verdun to Elain and Metz. It is in a dominating position and so commands a wide range for artillery purposes. In times of peace everything that could possibly be done to make Douaumont impregnable, all that was known to military science and mechanical genius had been applied to that end, and yet the fortress falls in a quite short while into the hands of the invincible and brilliantly led Brandenburgers. It is like all the most modern fortresses protected with heavily armored low lying turrets, and has communicating lines with the other fortresses and infantry shelters and so forth and in fact is closely connected with the entire working of the rest of the forts.

Perhaps Surprised
One must suppose that the French defenders were taken by surprise at the audacity of the attackers and could at first scarce credit that the attack was meant in earnest, for the defenders had long made up their minds that they were in perfect safety. The bravery of the men who undertook such an attack is so great as to be almost beyond conception.

For one year and a half Verdun has successfully resisted all attempts at capture and vast preparatory works were necessary before even an approach could be made, for the French have fully understood the importance of Verdun, as forming the centre point of that powerful series of strongly fortified positions which complete the main barrier protecting Paris from the east.

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

Overwhelming German Victory North of Verdun

Number of Prisoners Taken Amounts Now to 15 Thousand Together With Large Booty as Yet Not Counted. French Press Opinion. Attempts to Belittle the Gain Made. Press and Political Opinions.

From the accounts of the war Correspondents accompanying the army of the Crown Prince, the victory about Verdun has been far greater than was at first imagined. The former count of 3,000 prisoners rapidly rose to 10,000 and from that to 15,000. At the same time a number of villages and positions have been taken.

German Official Report (Western Front.) Feb'y 26.

On the right bank of the Meuse the successes already announced yesterday, were still further increased being pushed in various directions. The fortified villages and farms of Champneuville sur Meuse, Colelettes, Marmont, Beaumont, Chambrettes and Ormes, besides that several enemy positions up to the Louvremont Hill, all were taken by storm.

Once more the enemy suffered quite specially heavy losses, ours were middling. The number of prisoners has risen from 7,000 to 10,000; as regards the booty no accounts have been made up as yet.

February 27

On the heights to the right of the Meuse the French made five repeated attacks with freshly brought up troops in an attempt to recapture the armored fort Douaumont. They were repulsed with heavy losses. To the west of the fort our troops now took Champneuville, the Cote de Talon and fought their way to close to the southern edge of the woods northeast of Bras. East of the fort they took the extensive fortifications of Hardaumont by storm. In the Woivre plain the German front is advancing steadily fighting against the foot of the Cotes Lorraines. According to present reports the number of unwounded prisoners now amounts to almost 15,000.

Durazzo Captured

From the Austrian Official War Report of February 27: This morning our troops have taken possession of Durazzo.

Press Opinion THE "TEMPS"

The leading French newspaper the Temps is of opinion that any attempt to attack the fortifications of Verdun will be found to be a very hard nut to crack, the more so as the field troops in those parts are under the command of General Humbert, a man of great energy.

THE "TIMES"

From Paris the Times publishes a despatch in which it is stated, that in view of the wide scope of the operations and large front before Verdun it would not appear as though the Germans have much chance in the present offensive movement of capturing Verdun. The ground is covered with felled trees and consists of hillocks with low brushwood trained and twisted in all directions, and on all sides are narrow copses. Behind the first French lines for a distance of three English miles there are defensive positions before one reaches the advance fortified lines of Verdun. The lay of the land has been utilised in every way for defensive purposes.

Political Opinion

Paris, Sunday. The Radicals put the blame for the Verdun defeat upon the fact of the change of Commanders and say that if Sarrail had remained the severe loss of ground and positions would not have taken place. They say that France is now suffering the consequences of the Salonica expedition, just exactly as M. Clemenceau had predicted would be the case.

THE "DAILY NEWS"

The Daily News considers that the fall of Erzeroum made it imperative for the Germans to take the offensive in the West in order to maintain the reputation of the Central Powers. Maybe also it was done to prepare the way for the great forthcoming offensive. It looks as though the Germans, in taking the offensive, were playing to the cards of the Allies.

"HET NIEUWS"

The Amsterdam Het Nieuws writes concerning the fight about Verdun, that it is exceedingly significant that it should be the Germans who take the first offensive and deal the first blow in 1916, thus showing that Germany has not yet come down to playing the role of the waiting and defensive foe. For not only around Verdun, but also in Alsace and in the south west from Altkirch they have attacked; likewise in Belgium, in the vicinity of Ypres, the Germans have all the while taken the offensive before the English. Thus it had become exceedingly difficult for the Allies to make any plans for the grand offensive which was contemplated for the Spring, and which was to have cleared the Germans out of France and Belgium.

(Continued on Page 2.)

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THE CONTINENTAL TIMES may be seen at all Consulates and Embassies.

Breaches of Neutrality

The grossest breaches of the hitherto sacred word "Neutrality" appear to have become the habit of the times in which we are living. The flagrant breaches of neutrality which the French and English have exercised, specially upon Greek territory, have become by-words and have demonstrated that no small country nowadays is safe against invasion and must not volens bow to the injustice done.

The truth is that the neutrality of all lands has, by the decrees of Great Britain, been grossly violated. Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Holland are all being subjected to a control which makes them virtually vassal states subordinate to the arbitrary rule of one nation, which, owing to its control of the seas, aspires to dominate the trade of all Neutral countries in time of war.

The situation of America is particularly humiliating and one wonders at the tameness of the Washington Cabinet which meekly allows the Naval Officers of Great Britain to "hold up" respectable American citizens, search and examine them in a manner so minute that all decency ceases. The whole tone and action adopted by those English officers casts absolute discredit upon the American passport, a document which formerly commanded respect wherever it was shown.

Nowadays the British official glances contemptuously at the American Passport, and does not shrink in the least from the statement that it means little or nothing at all to him. The *Civis Americanus sum*, those words all Americans were wont to speak so proudly, "I am an American," feeling sure that they meant respect and freedom to do as he liked, have become a mere hollow sentence at which the British Naval Officer smiles superciliously. And so it is nowadays with the letters and even securities of Americans, they are deliberately taken off neutral ships, no matter whether directed to neutral countries or not. And America protests and protests. In former times a protest from the American Government meant something in English eyes. Today it has apparently no more effect than the futile and so oft repeated protests of poor little Greece, treated with contempt by the British Government. Mr. Lansing draws up Notes to England—one of them the severest ever indited and presented to any big nation and Sir Edward Grey contemptuously remains silent. America swallows the snub and says no more!

But now, all at once and for no reason at all, Portugal has taken upon itself to commit a grave breach of neutrality, consisting of nothing less than the taking possession by armed force of some 36 German trading ships which have been lying in the harbor of Lisbon ever since the war began. For such a measure there is no apparent reason. The Portuguese Government not being at war with Germany cannot have any legal right for undertaking such a step and it would appear at first sight to be one of the most glaring of the many totally unjustifiable breaches of international law of which this war has furnished so many examples. Maybe the Portuguese have placed armed forces aboard the German ships for the purpose of protecting them against threatened seizure by the English. That would be an honorable reason. For the credit of the Portuguese it is to be hoped that it is the explanation offered.

Aviator's 2,000 Feet Fall

The remarkable experience of an aviator falling 2,000ft and being still alive when helped from the debris occurred at Brooklands. Mr. George Rainham, one of the most famous of Brooklands aviators, who for some time past has been engaged in association with the Royal Flying Corps, had twice "looped the loop," and appeared thoroughly at home, when his machine suddenly fell headlong from a height of about 2,000ft. When picked up life was still remaining, although Rainham was unconscious, and he was conveyed in a critical condition to a local hospital.

Unexpected Strange Action

Continued from page 1. citizens of either country living in the country of the other are free from military and other Government calls and from requisitions of all kinds, gives as exception to those conditions cases where unwieldy property is heavily burdened with charges of various sorts, in which case requisition is admissible. But such requisition must not take place before a mutual agreement as to compensation has been arrived at between the interested parties.

The great question of import now is to know what Portugal proposes to do with the German ships. The suspicion naturally is that she wishes to pass them over to England, it being well known that Great Britain is sorely in need of trading boats. But up to date the German Government has received no declaration from the Portuguese Government regarding its action, nor has the German Government received any official notification of the seizures.

Curious Explanation

Lisbon, Sunday. It is explained here, as accounting for the seizure of the German merchantmen, that a law exists in Portugal whereby in cases of need the Government can seize all trading ships found within their waters for the use of the country. Of late there has been the very greatest need of steamers for the purposes of Portuguese trade. Accordingly the law existing has been brought into requisition.

GERMAN SHIPPERS REPORT

Several of the German shipping company directors have been interviewed. The Hamburg South American Line, for instance, has three ships in Portuguese Ports, the "Santa Ursula", 3,000 tons and two other ships in the harbor of Madeira.

The Woermann Line company reports that it has no ships in Lisbon.

The Hamburg American Line has three ships in the Tagus.

GERMAN SHIPS IN NEUTRAL LANDS. Altogether the amount of German shipping in neutral harbors is reckoned at 1.9 million tons. Of that, there are 270,000 tons in Portugal; 600,000 tons in North America and in South America 436,000 tons.

There are according to the latest report forty German ships lying in the Tagus, one in Sines, two in Madeira and one in Oporto.

CRISIS IN WASHINGTON

Revolt by the Democrats Against the Leadership of President Wilson. Washington, Sunday. The Democrat Gore in the Senate sought to bring in a resolution, that Americans be warned against travelling by armed merchant ships belonging to belligerents. The Republican Brandegee blocked the proposal.

In the House of Representatives Mr. Mendell brought in a like resolution. It is not thought that the Commission of the House of Representatives for Foreign Affairs will report upon any such motion as the above.

A political crisis appears to have arisen in the form of a revolt of the Democrats against the leadership of Wilson. But the President remains firm and will not consider any motion regarding the forbidding of Americans travelling aboard armed merchantmen.

Words of Truth in the Lords

London, Sunday. In the debate in the House of Lords, in reference to the Blockade, Lord Beresford said in the course of a fiery speech: "The war is being carried on by a Cabinet of 22 dilettantes. We are not conducting the war, it is leading us. The conduct of the war has grown worse since the formation of the Coalition Cabinet. The war will not be won by compromises."

No Courage

After Lord Beresford had concluded, Lord Loreburn spoke. He said, that no Minister had had the courage to express his opinion that the war could be brought to an end by the pressure of the British fleet. It was a very dangerous thing to arouse expectations, that by the unlimited use of a certain weapon a desired goal could be reached. He could not imagine how a man of the repute of Lord Sydenham could stake his name that by the means he proposed (the blockade) Germany could be brought to its knees. England would merely get into terrible complications with the Neutrals. England for its provisions and shipping space was dependent upon the Neutrals.

No Effect

The food blockade of Germany had had little effect in that country beyond that of making the people more determined to be economical and self-sacrificing. A pressure by the fleet would not bring the war any nearer to an end. The Governments and not the people of Europe were responsible for the war. The only way to save the European continent from immeasurable misery was to end the war.

In The New Balkan Express

Impressions Made Upon a Newspaper Correspondent By King Ferdinand.

At Constantinople

Turks Need the German Business Initiative. Enver Pasha and His Ambitions. Had the English Captured Constantinople it Would Have Availled Nothing.

The Daily Mail Correspondent who lately travelled from Constantinople by the Balkan Express gives the following amusing account of his journey:

Much Impressed.

The new Balkan Express is probably the handsomest train in Europe, and has been designed beyond doubt by the Germans for the purpose of impressing the thousands of people who see it twice a week on its way between Berlin and Constantinople. It impresses the Turks as a proof of German efficiency. It impresses and delights the Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, Bulgarians, and the rest of the people who see it on its journey.

After the banquet at Nish the Kaiser disappeared in his own imperial train in his usual mysterious fashion, no one exactly knowing his destination.

The "Balkan Express" steamed into the station, the German, Bulgarian, and Austrian national anthems were played, and King Ferdinand and his two sons entered before the rest of the passengers. Unceremoniously his Bulgarian Majesty entered in the course of the evening into every compartment and made a few general remarks to each person separately. He displayed a remarkable knowledge of languages. In the carriage next to me was the Baroness von Wangenheim, the widow of the late German Ambassador to Turkey, and with her were her three little daughters, whom Ferdinand took on his knees and fondled.

The Polyglot Monarch.

When he came into my compartment we of course rose, clicked heels, and bowed. He gave us the royal consent to be seated and spoke Hungarian to a Hungarian, who afterwards told me that the King spoke the language like a Hungarian. The other passengers in my compartment were two German flying men in Turkish uniform, who, with ten others that were in the train, had been suddenly recalled from Constantinople to take part, it was said, in forthcoming air raids on England.

King Ferdinand adopts quite the Kaiser's method of speech. He said, "Thanks to God, who greatly helped us, we can now travel from the West to the East through conquered territory in a few days. We are going farther. Give my Royal salute to all the people of your home country."

At the Foreign Office I saw Halil Bey, who said:—

"We Turks need the German business initiative. We do not possess it yet. Look what Germany did for Roumania. She is now rich and prosperous and full of enterprise. The Germans are with us only for the duration of the war and they will help Turkey to become a wealthy nation. See what the Germans are doing for us in Anatolia! There we have 200 German non-commissioned officers teaching our people modern farming."

Enver Pasha is young, short, extremely well dressed—a dandy, in fact—and speaks German perfectly.

I asked him whether it was true that England was prepared to make a separate peace with Turkey and whether it would have any effect.

He replied:—"It is too late. They may have had that design and it might have succeeded, but we learned that the Entente"—or, as he called them jocularly—"the mal Entente Powers had designed to hand over Constantinople to Russia, and that compelled us to join Germany and the other Central Powers."

Referring to the Gallipoli campaign, he said:—

"If the English had only had the courage to rush more ships through the Dardanelles they could have got to Constantinople, but their delay enabled us thoroughly to fortify the Peninsula, and in six weeks' time we had taken down there over 200 Austrian Skoda guns. But," he continued, "even had the British ships got to Constantinople it would not have availled them much. Our plan was to retire our Army to the surrounding hills and to Asia Minor and leave the town at their mercy. They would not have destroyed it, and the result would have been simply an impasse. With the Germans we can strike at the British Empire through the Suez Canal. Our motto is 'To Egypt!'"

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

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

PROPOSED OPENING OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE. GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS WILL SHORTLY BE HELD

KING FERDINAND WELCOMED

TZAR OF BULGARIA MEETS WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION. VISIT TO THE MILITARY ACADEMY AND THE PARMA CASTLE.

Vienna, Sunday. One of the signs of the times here; which is in keeping with the general return of business to a more or less normal point; is given in the meeting which has been held to consider the question of the re-opening of the Stock Exchange. The matter has been taken up by the Minister of Finance, Ritter von Leth. A two hours discussion took place and those present came to an agreement upon the general principle and form whereby it would be possible to resume dealings in stocks, bonds and securities of all kinds. A further meeting will be held soon, and after that a general meeting of the Stock Exchange Members will be called.

King Ferdinand in Vienna

Just of late King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has been the "lion" of Vienna, and wherever he has been seen he has met with the heartiest reception. One of the many trips His Majesty has made was to witness the target practice at the Steinfeld, and on his way to Schwarzau he visited the Theresianische Military Academy. Although the news of the coming of the King was only known the same morning, by the time the King arrived the whole of Wiener Neustadt was gay with bunting and flags were flying from every window. When the King arrived at Wiener Neustadt, he was received with military honors and he inspected the Guard of Honor drawn up at the station. His Majesty thence went directly to the Military Academy where a Guard of Honor of the Cadets was lined up to do him the honors due to him as a victor and Field Marshal. After the first greetings the King made an inspection, and the troops, in splendid line, marched past in the Burghof. The King looked thoroughly pleased as he noted the smartness of the young soldiers. Afterwards he took luncheon in the Officers Club and there made a brief but happily worded speech in praise of the Austro-Hungarian army.

After the luncheon, the King visited the St. George's Church, and there himself spoke a prayer. Amidst the cheers of the officers, of the Cadets and the men, the King at two o'clock in the afternoon left the Academy after expressing the lively pleasure the visit had given him. All agreed that King Ferdinand is the most charming mannered of men and at the same time every inch the King.

Visit to Schwarzau

Upon leaving the Academy, King Ferdinand pursued his journey to Schwarzau, where the Parma Castle is situated. It will be remembered, that the first wife of the King was a Princess of Parma, and his visit was made to the Duchess Maria Antonia of Parma, the Mother of the wife of the Heir to the Throne. King Ferdinand had not paid a visit to the members of the House of Parma for a long while. The meeting was of the most cordial and may be taken as marking a happy conciliation between the two families. Present during the visit were the Crown Princess, the Archduchess Zita, and the Archduchess Maria Theresa, born an Infante of Portugal and belonging to the house of Braganza.

The cordiality of the reception given to King Ferdinand in Vienna has been warmly appreciated in Sofia and the *Narodni Prava* publishes an article upon the subject in which it is stated that eight years ago, owing to the support of Austria, Bulgaria was able to proclaim its independence, and it was Austria-Hungary three years ago that raised its voice in favor of the discouraged and robbed Bulgaria.

Important Meeting

Very important indeed are the meetings now taking place between the representatives of Austria and Hungary, as regards the commercial relations between the two countries. Undoubtedly most important issues are being considered and an effort is being made to weld the commercial relations of the two countries much closer together. Representing Austria there is the Minister President, Count Stürgkh; Minister of Finance, Ritter von Leth; Minister of Commerce, Doctor von Spitzmüller; Minister of Works, Zenker; and the Minister of Railroads, Baron Forster. On the part of Hungary there is Minister President, Count Tisza; Minister of Trade, Baron Harkanyi; Minister of Finance, Doctor von Teleszky; Minister of Commerce, Baron Harkanyi; and Minister of Works, Baron Chillany.

A HUGE HANDICAP.

Blondine—I wish Percival wouldn't wear a fountain pen in his breast pocket. Brunetta—Why? Blondine—I am continually running the point into my ear. (From Judge.)

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.

Ludicrous Propaganda.

To The Editor. I am forwarding money order to cover subscription for a period of three months.

At the same time I would say that whenever opportunities present themselves, I shall be delighted to contribute my iota to the just and good cause which is to my thinking being championed upon the pages of your Continental Times. That you may be better enabled to understand fully I would say that I am a U.S.A. citizen, bonafide, native-born (which is or ought to be—of little consequence), and of an extraction which would tend to a neutral state of mind. Further more I would mention that you are perfectly welcome to make use of any portion of whatever I may at any time write or send to the office of the Continental Times.

In connection with the extensive and hardly less ludicrous than insidious propaganda which has been carried out by means of "militarism", "Prussian militarism" and similar phrases, it would seem that the following is not entirely without interest and bearing. It is clipped from the pages of the London Times, a paper not absolutely unknown, and to our knowledge laying no special claim to being absolutely unrepresentative of British sentiment. After some time has been spent (or wasted) in showing how necessary it is to "Bring Germany to her knees", the world is told—"that England having been placed in a position in which she can, through her naval power, to a very large extent lay down the principles of international law, should now accept the responsibility, ensure for the future that her wishes be carried out, and secure for her allies and herself"—etc. ad nauseam. We agree fully. In fact, seek as we might, we could not discover the slightest mistake in the above—however with one exception—and that is a mere tiny matter of grammar, a mere slip, a mere nothing, a slight little matter of tense. We read, "that her wishes be carried out in the future". This is where the tense is disputable. "During the past" would be right. "At present" would pass. "For the future" is being discussed at present.

Zurich, Feb. 9, 1916. A.B.W.

Difficulties of Protecting Paris

Paris, Thursday. The *Petit Journal* publishes an interview with an expert aviator who was formerly one of the leaders of the Paris Defence Flying Corps, by name Flandin. He says that the defense of Paris against Zeppelin attacks is most difficult. In the first place it is hard to see a Zeppelin, and then, when observed, the fighting aeroplane, owing to its weight, cannot fly high enough to reach it. Machine guns are no use; if it is to be destroyed explosive bombs should be dropped from above, but the German airships, owing to their buoyancy can rise to such a height that such becomes impossible.

Being asked in what manner the Zeppelin attacks could be met, M. Flandin gave it as his opinion that the only thing to do was to seek out the airship halls where Zeppelins were housed and destroy them before the airships came out, as was done at Friedrichshafen, an experiment not repeated.

Questioned as to whether a competent person was at the head of the Flying Defense Corps at the present time, M. Flandin shrugged his shoulders being evidently of opinion that Under Secretary of State Besnard was not the fitting man for the post. Asked whether a capable man to direct the Defense Flying Corps was likely to be found, M. Flandin replied: "We must find him, for we need one."

The first Zeppelin raid is calculated to have resulted in a million of francs worth of damage. The second is stated to have done no damage. A third Zeppelin was sighted but turned back, probably owing to the heaviness of the firing and being detected by the workers of the search lights.

REASON AND WARFARE.

Reason has always repudiated war. It is clearly the most expensive way of getting what we want. In the ledger of rationalism the debits and the credits never balance.

Even as they fight, the warriors of this year cry out that they are fighting against war, that another stroke will drive the plague of it from off the face of the earth.

But reason has cheated us all along. It has been at best the thin bulwark which has shielded us from actuality. When we felt secure, wars have broken in upon us.

(Chicago Tribune.)

American Special Correspondent Wiegand Upon the War

Tells That There is Plenty of Gold In the Reichsbank. Question of Food and War Materials. The Embargo on Milk which Hits the Children. Germany "Ready to Quit" Because it Feels The Game Has Been Won

The following is the second part of an article on the comparative situation of the nations of the Entente and of the Alliance, after almost a year and a half of war, written for *The World* by Mr. von Wiegand, one of its staff correspondents, who has sent many notable despatches to *The World* from the Teutonic countries. It was written whilst he was in New York. He is now back in Germany.

The patriotic spirit of the German people has truly been remarkable. Even the laborers and school children take a deep interest in bringing out the gold from the hidden places and increasing the gold reserve of the Imperial Bank, which now has over \$600,000,000 in gold. For every mark in gold on hand in the Imperial Bank three marks in paper money may be issued.

Indicative of the spirit of the people in this gold reserve, as I left Berlin I paid with gold for my ticket to Holland at the railway station. The porter who carried my baggage saw with amazement that I took a handful of gold from my pocket. As the train was starting he came running into the car with a handful of paper money. Wouldn't I exchange what gold I had for paper since I probably would spend the gold anyway on my trip, and he would like to turn it into the Imperial Bank. He had run back and borrowed the paper money from the man at the ticket window. He got the gold. Some of the large "movies," also a few theatres, give an extra ticket for every ticket bought with gold.

The fact that Germany is so isolated and has comparatively little trade with the outside world has tended much to keep her money at home that otherwise would have gone abroad, and that applies especially to gold.

Food and War Material

As to food and war materials, Germany is husbanding its resources, developing new ones and practising the most stringent thrift and economy. Census of hogs, cattle, sheep, goats and horses have been taken. Every fruit tree has been counted. Stock inventory has been taken of every pound of nickel, copper, brass and lead. Every copper utensil in the kitchens, so much used in German homes, every brass or bronze doorknob, light fixture, faucet or plumbing in bathrooms has been listed and the Government knows to the ton how much of this material is in the empire in case they are needed. Just as in the Seven Year's War the Germans melted their wedding rings, watches, jewelry and silverplate and coined them into money for the Fatherland, so today the Germans would give up and turn their doorknobs and cooking utensils into cartridges and shells if need be.

Similar measures have been taken in regard to the food supplies. Fifty-four million tons of potatoes were raised in Germany this year, or about ten million more tons than the crop of last year. The Government was arranging to bring food for 500,000 pigs from the Balkans. This food was to be furnished, the pigs to be fed until they reached the weight of 20 pounds, when they are to be sold to the Government at a specified price which will include the cost of the food.

The use of whipped cream in coffee and chocolate and for other purposes, of which the Germans are so fond, has been forbidden as an unnecessary extravagance. When I left there was talk of forbidding the use of chocolate and cocoa and sugar in the making of candy—that candy was not an actual necessity. The use of bread cards, milk cards, meat cards, petroleum cards makes for more equitable distribution and economy and enables the Government to control both the supplies and prices, thus preventing the people from being exploited by speculators.

It would be absurd to say that all these things are indications of an overabundance, and on the other hand it would be wrong to conclude that the point of actual need has been reached. There is a wide range between the inconvenience of enforced economy of a nation placed on rations and actual want. There is a greater shortage of some things than of others. With the tremendous rise in prices of food the poor, naturally, are the first to feel the new condition. Especially is it hard on the small children and babies of the poor, because of the shortage of milk. There is, I believe, an embargo in Holland and Denmark upon exportation of dairy supplies to Germany except under certain conditions, and these conditions mean high prices. If the war should continue very long and the point of real suffering be reached within the Central Empires it will not be the men in the armies who will feel it—everything will be sacrificed for them—but it will be the non-combatants at home, more especially the babies and children of the poor.

Why Germany Is "Ready to Quit"

"But Germany is ready to quit!" I am told here. Certainly; so is the man who has won the stake in a poker game. He knows there isn't much more money in the crowd. For the reason that the winner of the stakes is ready to quit on the one hand, the other players won't want to quit. The analogy is rather far-fetched but helps to illustrate the point. With Germany it is a case of "to have—to hold." Germany is in position to quit, and for the same reason the others are not.

As to Kaiser's Health

It would be as useless here to say that the Kaiser is not everything that he has been

portrayed in a portion of the press, as it would be to try to convince the German people that President Wilson is and has been neutral and fair to Germany. The Kaiser has aged much in the last sixteen months, but he is remarkably fresh and vigorous. His hair has turned very gray—almost white. His face shows that he has not carried lightly or with indifference the burdens and responsibilities upon him. Personally, I don't take any stock in the despatches that he is seriously ill. It probably will develop that he has nothing more than tonsillitis or a bad sore throat, an attack of which he has almost every winter. Last winter he had a similar attack. There were the usual reports that he was very ill, had cancer, &c. I broke all precedents by walking past the sentries into the Palace and stopping his physician just as he was going into the Kaiser's apartments. At first the doctor said it was against professional ethics for a physician to talk about his patients, and the Kaiser was his "patient". But, whether it was in admiration of my nerve or not I cannot say, the doctor told me all about his Imperial patient; that he had something which in medical language sounded very dangerous, but in plain English was ordinary tonsillitis, such as even plebeian throats often get. He would be out in a few days—as soon as the weather improved; and he was. Very probably that is what he has now.

Grand Admiral von Tirpitz, the German Minister of Marine, to whom the submarine policy is attributed, is not ill, as I have seen reported. Two days before I left Berlin I happened to meet Tirpitz near the Ministry of Marine building. He stopped and chatted a moment. I had not seen him for some months. He looked remarkably fresh and vigorous and walked with an elasticity that many men fifteen years younger might well envy. It is true that he is somewhat in eclipse at present, but whether as a marine political factor he is as dead as some people profess to think the future will answer. If he keeps his health and remains as vigorous it would not be surprising if he "comes back". He always has had a strong hold on the German people.

The Crown Prince

Stories from London, Amsterdam, Paris or Geneva, printed here, telling of domestic infelicities in the German Crown Prince's family, that there has been a break, or threatens to be one, between the Crown Princess and Crown Prince, are, I believe, without the slightest foundation. They are on a par with the various reports of the Crown Prince's death, wounding and even his burial which have been printed from time to time. The last time that I saw the Crown Prince was on his second visit to Berlin. He was driving about town sitting the wheel of his roadster. Cecilie, with

their baby on her lap, was at his side, and piled up in the seat behind and on the bottom of the car were the other four youngsters. The day before I left Berlin the Crown Prince had come to Berlin for this third brief visit in sixteen months.

It has been said that the German Crown Prince has shown no capacity for military leadership, that he has achieved nothing brilliant since his capture of the fortress of Longwy early in the war. But who else has on the stationary West front? At the age of thirty-three he is the youngest lieutenant-general in the army. He commands one of the several armies on the West front. His chief of staff is a general from the Grand General Staff. Aside from the German and Bavarian Crown Princes, how many even know the names of the generals commanding the other German armies on the West front? Their task is to hold the line. That they are doing, but it affords little opportunity for initiative or spectacular and brilliant military operations, as in Russia. A London magazine, recently describing the Crown Prince as a "rotter", "hounder" and a "crook", stated that he had "sacrificed the lives of hundreds of thousands of men for the merest whim." Heavy as the losses have been in the Argonne, that is prejudice rather than fact. The Crown Prince's command is no more independent than that of any other general commanding an army in the West. Any big operations like a drive at the French or English lines, in which hundreds of thousands of men would come into question, would be ordered by, or undertaken only with, the approval of the General Staff, and not at the whim of the general of an army lying in the trenches.

America Is Found Short of Nitrates

The *Chicago News* writes:

Deficiency in nitrate stores was called to attention in Chicago as a significant phase of military unpreparedness in the United States. Relief for that deficiency through establishment of an independent supply in this country hinges at present on settlement of disputed control of national water courses, it was asserted. A committee from the American Society of Civil Engineers met today in Chicago to draft a law that will eliminate disputes and open the way to unhampered exploitation of water power.

"The United States is dependent for its nitrates—an essential in the manufacture of explosives—on Chile," said James H. Lewis, state engineer of Oregon, who is in attendance at the conference. "The supplies on hand would probably last not more than thirty days in actual warfare. Control of the seas by a belligerent power would shut us off completely from our source of supply, and

leave us helpless until means to replenish could be found.

Nitrogen Drawn from Air

"There is a process for drawing nitrogen from the air by burning the air in powerful electric furnaces. Employment of this process is all that has saved Germany from a munition famine. No plant for using the process on a commercial scale exists in the United States. A \$50,000,000 project on the Columbia river which would supply national demands is held up solely because of uncertainty as to title to the water supply.

"The air covering a square mile of the earth's surface would provide enough nitrate for fifty years' use in times of peace, when it is demanded principally for fertilizer. The export duties we pay Chile for nitrate within a few years would defray the cost of a plant of our own. But, as I say, contention over the title to the water has thus far balked all efforts to realize the projects."

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TARTUFFE AND ANANIAS

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"Can God be on both sides?" —*T. P's Weekly*.

"Proof that the Kaiser is Anti-Christ; 1s. 2d. per dozen net. Publishers of one of those books which give power of mind and body." —*Power Book Co.*

"One of the reasons why we are now at war is to prevent the philosophy of Nietzsche from becoming one of the main principles which will serve to guide the future course of progress and civilization." —*Lord Cromer in "Spectator."*

"This book will show how it has been the long, labored, collective effort of these hundred millions of German race, tongue and name to impose their Kultur on Europe by a vast collaboration of infernal crimes." —*Frederic Harrison on His Book*.

"The Allies are bound to consult each other as equals." —*Westminster Gazette*.

"Germany went mad over the book—'Hindenburg's March into London'" —*Times Lit. Supp.*

"The closing of the museums and galleries would be a valuable object-lesson in economy and would point to similar economies in local museums and galleries." —*Treasury White Paper*.

St. John Gaffney Upon Wilson's Policy

The *Continental Times* regrets that there appeared recently an incomplete translation of the interview of Mr. St. John Gaffney with the special representative of the *Münchener Zeitung*. We take pleasure in publishing the full and correct text as translated by Mr. R. L. Orselle, and as it appeared originally in the *Münchener Zeitung* of February 14th.

The political situation has taken on a new aspect almost in the course of a night and seems to have brought about that long-desired change in the relations between Germany and the United States. Mr. Gaffney, who has lately done such excellent service in clearing up many misconceptions with regard to the mutual relations between Germany and America, expressed himself as follows to the Special Correspondent of the *Münchener Zeitung*: "The three great sensations of the last few days," remarked Mr. Gaffney, "namely, the German memorandum upon the future conduct of the submarine warfare against England, the interview given by the Imperial Chancellor to Mr. von Wiegand, the Berlin correspondent of the *New York World*, and the resignation of Garrison, the American Secretary of War, followed by that of his assistant, Breckinridge, have brought the collapse of the entire system of hostilities which had been so carefully and so persistently developed against Germany. The course of events leading up to this happy condition of things, is quite interesting. As I have already declared in a previous interview in your paper, those members of Congress who are concerned with the control of America's foreign policy, had gradually come to the conclusion that the way in which President Wilson had acted against Germany was no longer to be tolerated and that the interests of the American people demanded that the Wilsonian policy should cease. Wilson demanded immediate and extensive provision for war preparedness. His faithful henchman, lawyer Garrison, who had been appointed by Wilson to the post of Secretary of War, though he had never in all his life taken sword in hand, was given orders to get

A Great Military Bill

through Congress whilst Wilson went touring from place to place pushing his propaganda of war. Garrison and his assistant-secretary Breckinridge did their utmost to get up a majority for the armament budgets demanded by Wilson, but the bottom has simply dropped out of their scheme. The proceedings prove plainly that Congress wishes to have nothing to do with this wild project of Wilson, and the defeat was so decisive that the Secretary of War and his assistant were forced to resign from office. That has blown Wilson's militaristic soap-bubble into thin air, for it is self-evident that he will no longer be able to threaten war with Germany after Congress in so unmistakable a manner has shown that it has no intention of providing him with the means for preparing for war. Wilson would merely render himself ridiculous if under circumstances such as these, he should persevere in his inflammatory speeches,

and since he has sufficient political experience to perceive which way the wind blows, he has adapted himself to circumstances. He is at present actuated by no other desire than that of being re-elected. For this reason, through another friend of his, Secretary of State Lansing, he announced to the British Government that he would no longer be able to concede that English merchant ships armed like warships were to be regarded as harmless trading vessels on entry into American ports. The German declaration dealing with the carrying-out of the future submarine warfare against England came just at the opportune moment to give Lansing's announcement the necessary support. The mass of evidence which the German Government has established in the appendix to the declaration is of the greatest importance inasmuch as it dissipates all doubt as to the manner in which these allegedly "harmless merchant ships" are actually used. Wilson may still be actuated by the inward desire to weaken this forceful German document, but the American Congress and the American people are determined to be deceived no longer. Should there still have been any doubt in the United States respecting the dangers that threatened the land because of the Wilsonian policy, this has been swept away

by the words of the Chancellor

which contained a solemn admonition. Taken separately as well as together, the events I have mentioned have brought about a sudden change in the relations between America and Germany, and the best proof of this is the anger with which the English press follows this development of things. It may be significant to indicate the partly pernicious, partly ridiculous rôle played by the English and the Anglo-American press in the crisis which has now for over a year subsisted between America and Germany. The London and American papers dependent upon the British government had from the very beginning received orders to declare again and again that the American people were wildly demanding war with Germany. This press obeyed orders, and it is characteristic of the power of suggestion that resides in the printed word, that finally the "bosses" of these sheets who were certainly aware that the American eagerness for war existed only in their imagination, began to believe the very lies that had been spread about at their command. President Wilson was likewise of the assured belief that the Anglo-American newspapers echoed the voice of the American people, and was unable to come to the clear realization that this entire press campaign was in truth

the biggest political fraud of all ages.

The *London Times* now announces that the news of the probable settlement of the difficulties with Germany has been received with indifference in America, quite in contrast to the enthusiasm with which the earlier successes of the President had been greeted. This *Times* report is a model specimen of the typical English newspaper lie. For the

"enthusiasm" of yesterday and the "indifference" of today are still only figments of the imagination of the Anglo-American press. The American people in reality had never once experienced any feeling of triumph as to the peculiar politics practised by Wilson, and they thank Heaven that his uncomfortable machinations have been put an end to at the proper time.

Wilson still boasts that it was he who kept America from being involved in the war. In reality this is due to the broadminded German policy which merely took cognizance of open as well as secret hostilities and waited in serenity, patience and self-control until the real voice of the American people should be heard through their representatives in Congress. We Americans have known from the very beginning that Wilson was not speaking in the name of the American people, and we are heartily glad that the representatives of the American nation have finally made themselves heard. I am convinced that we have reached an end to all misunderstandings. All those patriots on this side of the ocean and the other who are aware how necessary it is to maintain the most excellent relations between the peaceable spirit of America and Germany now battling so heroically for peace, have come within measurable distance of their goal. Trade relations call for an improvement and call imperatively. In America as well as in Germany there is a strong and growing demand for a renewed exchange of goods. All those who have the real interests of the two countries at heart must now turn their attention to this problem. I may be able to give you some further information on this point—once a more complete understanding has been perfected."

Mr. Gaffney's opinions and predictions have now been borne out in a remarkable manner by the news that the Democrats have demanded that the control of foreign policy be taken out of Wilson's hands.

British Ministers Visit Paris

A despatch from London tells that the British Ministers Lloyd George and Bonar Law accompanied by Sir William Robertson and General Du Cane, Colonels Lee and Macpherson, and some other Government officials, recently visited Paris.

The object of the visit was to co-ordinate plans for manufacturing munitions and to concert generally as to the armament of the Allies. Two meetings took place, one at the Ministry of War, with representatives of the General Staff, and the other at the Ministry of Munitions, with artillery experts. The Ministers lunched with Mr. Albert Thomas, and were received later in the day by M. Briand, the Prime Minister, to whom they communicated the results of the conferences.

A REAL ROMANCE

A Masterpiece of Imagination.

"Der Golem" by Gustav Meyrink. Kurt Wolff Verlag, Leipzig, 1916. The readers of this book will be sharply divided in two bands, with an impassable abyss between—those who will put it down after the first twenty pages, impatiently exclaiming that they have "no patience with such stuff!"—and those who will not be able to go to bed while there are still pages unread, and who will return to the volume for the twentieth time with fresh pleasure. We believe that no one will enjoy this otherworld romance who cannot with pleasure read Edgar Allan Poe. It is in a word, fantastic, whimsical, mystical—the very central idea upon which the story is based is a fantastic one—the mediaeval legend of the Golem, the human-seeming creature which the old Rabbis made, and to which they gave life by setting a mystic number behind its teeth.

The scene of the story is Prague—the old Jew's quarter, a fitting setting for dreams and visions—but though the story is ostensibly of to-day there is not a faint cloud of the World War to dim the spring-like freshness of its romance—which, in the eyes of many readers, will not be the least of its many merits.

Gustav Meyrink is happy in the possession of an extraordinary vividness and fertility of imagination; and he is no niggard with it. His complicated and entrancing story takes five hundred pages for its telling—and no follower of the fortunes, the mystical and realistic adventures of Athanasius Pernath, the carver of gems, but will wish there were as many more. It would do the German writer a great injustice did we not elaborate our comparison with Edgar Allan Poe. Our own neglected genius had not the gift of whimsical humor which sparkles from these pages—he did not tell stories of such absorbing incident; neither had he that delicious sense of characterization which makes living beings for us of Zwith the marionette-owner, Charousek the student with his fanatic hate and his one friendship, "the red-haired

Rosina," and even the strange dreamy figure of Pernath himself. It is a full canvas—many another figure begs for notice and remembrance; but we refer the reader to the book itself, and refuse to cast a shadow over his pioneer enjoyment by revealing any of the windings of the plot. We add, as a final word, that for those of us who have hastily concluded that the German language, as written, is always difficult, involved and full of long sentences, miserably trailing the verb at the extreme end of the string, the style of "Der Golem" will be something of a revelation.

KING GEORGE

ABANDONS TEMPERENCE

The *Chicago Tribune* writes:

King George's return to the comforts of mild stimulation, upon the advice of the medical men, in consequence of the weakness resulting from his fall in France, may be made too much of by the wets, who in these days seek avidly for all suggestions of the worth of rum. Ordinarily the medical men, when they get possession of a fellow man, take advantage of the opportunity to cut him off from all the indulgences with which he has endeavored to soften the rigors of life or to put a little pink in gray skies.

The exception made in the case of the king is merely a tribute to royal privilege. We are certain that for most invalids it would be better to seek stimulation in a cup of mild tea, whether the injury be from a fall from a horse or not, whether in war or otherwise.

It is a king's indulgence. Otherwise the elect of Great Britain, having been induced to follow the king's example when he went on the water wagon, would find it permissible to follow it when he fell off his horse and stepped off the wagon, and the increase in croppers might be appalling.

It will encourage the dries to note that it is the purpose of the king to surrender his indulgence when he gets back to work and needs a clear head.



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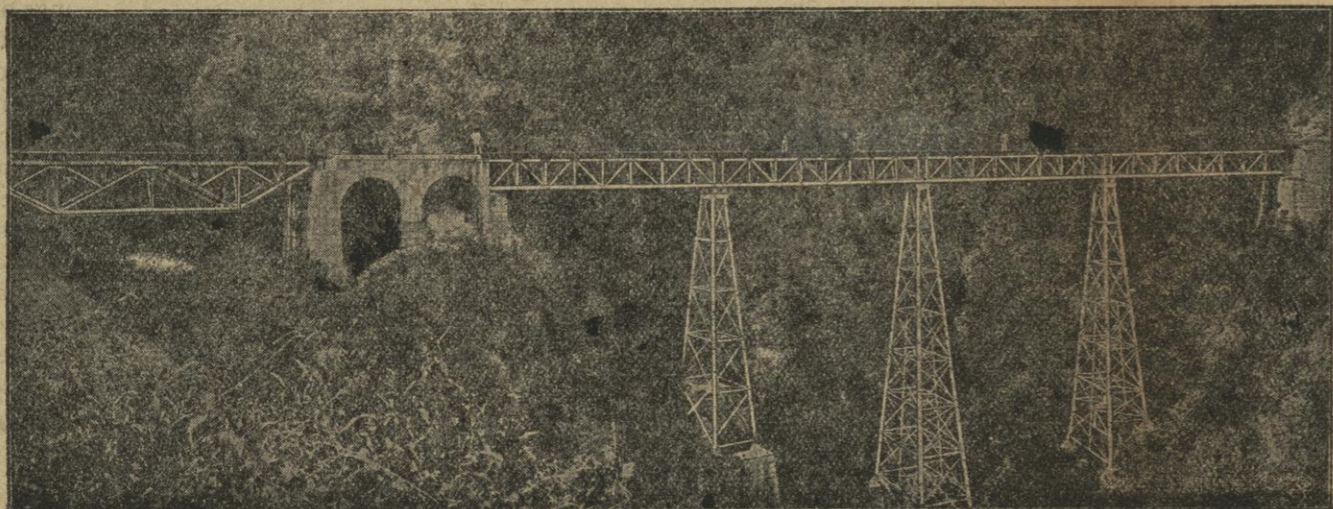
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