

SCISSORS AND PASTE

Vol. I. No. 15.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1915.

ONE HALFPENNY.

THE NEW GERMAN SUPER-SUBMARINE.

Copenhagen, Jan. 23.—Word came from Hamburg that one of the new German super-submarines has just concluded successful trial runs in the Bay of Heligoland.

The under-water giant carries supplies for three months, which obviate putting into a port or having recourse to a parent ship.—“New York American.”

Beyond the fact that the German submarine U 21, which sank three British merchant vessels in the Irish sea, has been again seen—this time off Southport—nothing new has definitely transpired of her movements.

It is, however, rumoured from the South Stack, near Holyhead, that vessels proceeding southwards have seen three submarines in St. George's Channel between Ireland and Wales, to the south of the Irish Sea.

It was also reported later that a Wexford patrol boat fired six shells at a submarine off that coast, but with what effect is not known.—Dublin “Evening Herald.”

CROWN PRINCE SENDS GREETINGS TO FRENCH.

Paris, Jan. 22.—German emissaries, carrying a white flag, bore the Crown Prince's New Year greetings to the French general commanding the Verdun garrison.

They were inscribed at the foot by an autographed photograph of the Prussian heir.—“New York American.”

THE FIGHTING AT LA BASSEE.

Great importance is attached in Germany to an alleged victory gained by the Baden troops over the English at La Bassee on January 25. It was stated in the official German report that while it was found impossible to drive the English out of their positions to the north of the La Bassee Canal, an attack was successfully carried out by the Baden troops, who drove the English from their positions along a front of some 1,200 yards south of the Canal, took 100 English prisoners, and captured some English guns. The “Frankfurter Zeitung” devotes a leading article to this official statement, in which it says that is an honour even to be mentioned in the report. The Baden regiments must have done very good work to be considered worthy of such honour, the journal continues, and it adds that this is the second time that they have “thrown the English out of their positions” in the La Bassee district. It remarks that “whoever strikes the English a good blow is placed in the good books of our military authorities.”—London “Morning Post.”

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY TO HAVE EXHIBIT AT SAN FRANCISCO EXHIBITION

Thomas M. Moore, Commissioner General of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, was informed by cable, through the State department, that Austria-Hungary will send an exhibit to San Francisco.

The decision of the dual empire to participate immediately followed the announcement that France and Belgium would take part. This makes forty-one foreign nations to be represented.—“New York American.”

AMERICAN FLAG HAULED DOWN BY BRITISH.

St. Michael's, Azores, Dec. 17.—Officers and men of the American tank steamer “Brindilla” related to-day how the ship's American flag was hauled down three times by British naval officers while the ship was being taken to Halifax after her recent seizure just outside New York.

The “Brindilla” left here to-day for Copenhagen with a cargo of oil belonging to the Standard Oil Company which was brought to this port by a German vessel.

“We were still within sight of Sandy Hook light,” said one member of the crew, “when a searchlight was turned on us. The wireless operator asked them who they were. For answer the ‘Suffolk’s’ wireless man held his key down and burned out our apparatus so it could not be used. Then our wireless operator repeated his question with the Morse flashlight and we were told to heave to.”

“An officer and a detachment of marines boarded us and asked the captain for his papers. They asked him where we were going and he replied that we were on our way to Alexandria. ‘Go to Halifax,’ ordered the officer. Our skipper refused to take the ship to Halifax, saying he was sailing under orders. The boarding officer then told him he was no longer in command of the vessel and that they would take it to Halifax themselves.

“They then put on a prize crew, eight officers and thirty-three armed marines. Their engineers did not know anything about our engines and asked the master for information. He told them if they were going to take the ship to Halifax to take it there, he was not going to tell them anything. Before long they had burst all our boilers and broken our pumps. Then they called the ‘Caronia’ to tow us. It took her half a day to make a line hold fast.

“Our Captain found the American flag had been hauled down. He ordered the mate to hoist it again. The next day it was again hauled down and again hoisted. After being pulled down the third time the captain left it, but made an entry in the log for each time he found it down. Just before we reached Halifax the British officer sent a man back to put it up.”—“New York Sun.”

Washington, Jan. 19.—Ambassador Gerard cabled the State Department to-day a statement made to him by Captain Farley, of the American steamer “Greenbrier,” which arrived at Bremen a few days ago with a cotton cargo from New Orleans.

Captain Farley charged that after examining the “Greenbrier’s” papers, a British prize crew ordered the American flag to be hauled down and convoyed the ship into Kirkwall, a British port. Captain Farley refused to navigate the ship while the English flag was at her mast, and claimed that through incompetent navigation by the British three booms were swept away.

He was ordered to take the ship to Leith from Kirkwall, which he did, after raising the American flag, and later was able to proceed to Germany, after a delay of three days.

The States Department, it is understood, is

investigating the case through the American Embassy in London.—“New York American.”

Washington, January 21.—The deep undercurrent of opinion at the State and Navy departments is that the case of the American vessel “Greenbrier,” whose flag is reported to have been hauled down by officers of a British war vessel, is the most serious which has arisen between the United States and Great Britain in the present war.

In the Navy Department the position held tenaciously is that the British cruiser performed an absolutely unwarranted act.

The hope is that there has been a misunderstanding of the circumstances. If the account is correct, officers say, Great Britain must offer redress by apology, which will, of course, include a disavowal of the acts of the cruiser's commander.

All authorities agree that if Great Britain should defend the lowering of the American flag under the circumstances a portentous issue will have arisen between the two Governments.

The United States Consul at Bremen reported to-day the detention there last week of sailors of the steamships “Carolyn” and “Greenbrier.” He added that the sailors had been released.

The “Carolyn” is one of three vessels which sailed from the United States with cotton for Bremen. The “Carolyn” got into port safely, but the “Greenbrier” was arrested. The “Carolyn” touched at Falmouth, England, and it is supposed that fact induced the German authorities to examine the crew and to detain some of them for examination. The “Greenbrier” also touched at a British port, Kirkwall.—“New York American.”

CRUISER “KARLSRUHE” IS SEEN OFF PORTO RICO.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Jan. 21.—The steamship “Coamo,” Captain Barber, which sailed from New York on January 16 for San Juan, reports having sighted the German cruiser “Karlsruhe” to-day off Moro.

The cruiser turned a searchlight on the “Coamo,” the officers say. It refused to answer wireless signals, and disappeared.—“New York American.”

AMERICAN FOODSTUFFS FOR GERMANY.

I hear from Berlin that it has been definitely decided by Herr Ballin's Committee that a number of cargoes of foodstuffs are to be sent in American ships as gifts to the German civilian population from German friends in America.—London “Morning Post.”

GERMANY'S PRISONERS 800,000, BERLIN SAYS.

Amsterdam, Jan. 10.—Official reports say the prisoners of war in Germany and Austria now number 800,000, more than double the total of the Franco-Prussian War. The “Cologne Gazette” says the Allies hold only 200,000. The official figures are:—

French, 3,459 officers, 215,905 men; Russians, 3,575 officers, 306,294 men; Belgians, 612 officers, 36,852 men; British, 492 officers, 18,824 men.—“New York American.”

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1915.

MONSIGNOR YORKE ON FRANCE.

"Let it be granted that Germany did violate the Belgian treaty, and did designate it as a worthless piece of paper, what right has France to complain? A hundred years ago the French nation made a solemn treaty with the Catholic Church. The Concordat gave to France the immense possessions with which the charity of past generations had endowed religion, and received in return an insignificant pittance for the support of the clergy. It also gave the French Government a certain control of the Church organisation, not always, indeed, an advantage to the Church, but absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the French regime. That was a true treaty, guaranteed indeed by no foreign nations, by no armies or navies, but resting entirely on the honour of France.

"You know what has happened in the last few years. In a time of profound peace, without the slightest provocation, in the sheer wantonness of power, the French Government tore up that piece of paper and threw it in the face of the Pope. The soldiers of France were sent to break open the doors of the Tabernacle to value the vessels of the altar. The officers of France invaded the cells of the Little Sisters of the Poor to price the straw in their pallets.

"If there are to-day smoking convents and ruined churches and crumbling cathedrals, the German guns are only doing in a more merciful manner against an enemy what the French politicians had decreed to be done slowly and cautiously against Frenchmen and French women through confiscation and expulsion and neglect."—**Very Rev. Peter C. Yorke, D.D.**, in "The Leader," San Francisco.

AN AMERICAN WAR CORRESPONDENT ON THE GERMAN ARMY IN FRANCE.

I thought it a beautiful thing to see my friend Capt. Franz von Kempis, of the Konigin Augusta Garde, grenadier regiment No. 4, standing uncovered on a chill October afternoon before the grave of the French officer who to-day is known throughout the German armies in northern France as the "brave Alvares." That soldier was commander of the Fort des Ayvelles, near Charleville, and when the garrison refused to make the stand against the Germans which he felt its honour demanded he killed himself. The victors buried him with military honours in a lovely evergreen grove behind the fort and over his grave they erected a beautiful cross fashioned with patient skill from wood. And that cross bears this inscription in German text:—

Here rests the brave commandant. He was not able to live longer than the fortress intrusted to him.

By this simple cross of wood the German soldier honours in thee the hero of duty.

Second Landwehr Pioneers' Company of the Eighth Army Corps.
September, 1914.

Some day in happier times I hope to show you the photograph of this shrine place under the evergreens. In late October the German wachmeister in charge of the little force guarding Ayvelles was keeping the grave green with fresh boughs.

It seemed to me a beautiful thing to see French soldiers kissing the hands of German doctors who ministered to them in the hospital at Laon, and I have seen few finer, sweeter deeds in my life than the action of a German doctor who placed an arm under the back of a suffering and distraught Frenchman, and drawing him to his breast, said: "I give you my word you are not going to die, but you must help me to make you well by keeping yourself calm."

Two big tears rolled down the Frenchman's cheeks, and there was a look of infinite gratitude in his eyes when the doctor gently lowered him to the pillow.

I thought it beautiful and touching to see two big German soldiers sitting in the front

room of a house in the town of Betheniville, not many leagues from Rheims, while a little French girl, perhaps 12 years old, gave them a lesson in French. It was they who seemed the children, and she the adult, so awkward and simple and attentive were they like, and so monitorlike and strict with them was she.

The French children who were begging pfennigs with pathetic, pretty histrionism from the princes, generals, majors, captains, and private soldiers who came and went through the railway square in the French town where great headquarters of the German armies are located seemed to me to afford decisive enough proof that these little ones were not much afraid of Mr. Kipling's "Huns." I noticed with pleasure that almost never did they meet with a refusal.

And again, I could not convince myself that much personal rancour was existing between German invaders and Belgian non-combatants, when a German officer, whose automobile was already well filled, stopped the car on a country road to ask a Belgian doctor whether he could not give him a lift to his destination.

And in desolated Dinant I both wondered and smiled when I saw Over Lieut. Dr. Lehmann, of Dresden, busily helping the Belgian mistress of the inn to set the dinner table when a party of shivering officers and correspondents arrived unexpectedly one chill night in September. The eager officer was perhaps more of a bother than a help to the hostess, but she took his activity in good part, and there was much laughter and chaffing between them. He made his quarters at the inn for many days, and every Belgian about the place seemed fond of him. A month later I was there again for a night, and the first thing I did was to ask the Over Lieutenant. "Oh, he is departed—he is gone these many days," cried all the women folk in chorus, and seemed genuinely sorry.

Germans Feed Destitute.

It was at Dinant, too, that I twice studied the method by which the German Army is daily providing 600 destitute families of the town with bread, meat, and coffee, charging them absolutely nothing, while families which can pay obtain food at cost. Meat is delivered to the local butchers, and German Sergeants stand by in the shops to see that the people are not overcharged. In Brussels I had heard an assistant to the Belgian Burgomaster ask the German commandant of the city, Major Beyer, for 10,000 sacks (that is, 2,220,000 lbs.) of flour for the poor. I heard the official stamp come crashing down on the typewritten request which the official also submitted, and I saw the paper returned to the Belgian functionary with a smile of acquiescence.

To go back to Dinant, I saw little human tokens, like the words chalked in German on the doors of a poor Belgian house, "Here lives a grandmother, 98 years old; keep out," and on the door of another Belgian house the words, also in German, "Here is a new baby; be quiet."

Within a stone's throw of the first of the forts which the Germans took in the fighting around Liege I saw in October the grave of a Belgian soldier. It was strewn with green boughs and above it was a wooden cross on which had been lettered in black paint, "Here lies a Belgian soldier." The humble but, as the times go, sufficient memorial was the work of German soldiers now guarding the ruins of a fort around which was some of the hardest fighting of the war.—**James O'Donnell Bennett** in "The New York Times."

POLICE MAGISTRATE AS RECRUITING OFFICER.

"Why don't you enlist?" asked the Hon. John de Grey of a young man charged with drunkenness at West London Police Court yesterday. "Because I've got a wife and two or three children," the man replied. The Magistrate: The Government will look after them. They will get a good allowance and probably be a lot better off. Defendant: I have got a good job and don't want to lose it. The Magistrate: If everybody was like you the Germans would come over and take your job away. Defendant: I don't know anybody in the Army. I might join if I did. The Magistrate: I will send an officer with you to the recruiting office if you will go, and I will then take no notice of the offence. The Defendant: No, I would rather not. The Magistrate: You will pay 2s. 6d. and you deserve to have a Zeppelin come over and drop a bomb on your head.—London "Morning Post."

GERMANY AND IRELAND.

Dr. Dernburg's organ in New York, the "Fatherland," continues its campaign against England with the well-known calumnies, and

with the same absolute reliance on the gullibility of the American public which characterised its earliest efforts.

In one of the leading articles of the latest issue of this absurd "organ" we read: "England is doomed to sure defeat. Divided in counsel, smarting under the condemnation of her discovered crime against Western civilisation, unable either by threats or cajolery to tempt her own citizens into the shambles to which she drives the mixed cohorts of her subject races, she has extinguished the lights in her once-proud cities, and waits with feverish dread the night of her last day as a World Power." As we read this stuff we are satisfied that the generation of Mr. Jefferson Brick is not yet extinct.

This is the way the Dernburg journal appeals to "unhappy Ireland": "Is it not the duty of Irish-Americans who have escaped the tyranny of their ancient master to warn their kinsfolk at home of the fate that awaits them? Let Dublin be the first to hold out an olive-branch to a friendly conqueror! This way lies their long-sought independence."

Then there is the handwriting on the wall: "England is weighed in the balance and found wanting. Efficiency at absolute zero. Patriotism at the vanishing point. In the brave days of Nelson wooden walls were a sure enough defence, now iron is too weak to save her hapless coast-dwellers."—London "Daily Chronicle."

WHERE GERMAN HATRED IS NOT DIRECTED.

The occupation of Antwerp is an automatic pistol pointed at the heart of England. Belgian and Polish territory have increased both actually and potentially German resources. The hatred of all Germans in Europe and of 22,000,000 Germans in the United States is not directed against France, Russia, Canada, Australia, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales. It is concentrated on England.—**Arnold White** in the London "Daily Express."

MR. DEVLIN'S ORCAN AND "THE IRISH REGIMENTS."

We have had ample evidence—largely supplied by belated and incomplete casualty lists—that Irish Regiments have played a really remarkable part in the war. They have been in the forefront on practically every critical occasion; they have led the brilliant charges; they have been "the first to advance and the last to retreat." But if there has been a solitary line of official recognition given to any Irish Regiment, we fail to recall its publication. "A certain regiment's" nationality was hidden from public knowledge: therefore we are quite confident that if the men who saved the situation at Givenchy were not Irishmen they were Scots Highlanders. The Gaels of Scotland are also generally recognised—in the lists of dead and wounded.—"Irish News," Belfast.

GERMAN COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS AND ENGLAND.

Distinguished gentlemen in the German academic world have renounced their British honours, and now the German commercial travellers have followed suit, for so does the dignity of business movement express itself in the cultured Fatherland. At the conference of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association held in Edinburgh in 1911, the honorary membership of the Association was conferred upon the delegates of the German Association. Now the delegates, by an announcement in their organ, "Die Post," cast their honours back into the metaphorical teeth of the donors. The reasons for such frightfulness are stated over six signatures as follows:

"We, the undersigned, have decided to resign our hon. membership of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association and to return our official badges at the first opportunity. The reason that this has not been done before is that the undersigned had the opinion that after the declaration of peace commercial relations between Germany and Great Britain would be resumed, and it would thus be out of place to break off good relations with old colleagues, but the action of England against Germany in business matters has reached such a degree of hatred and meanness as has never before been known under any conditions of warfare among cultured nations; that it is evident the idea is not only to destroy German commerce, but the German nation entirely. Further, the robbing of German property and the bad treatment of German prisoners in England, show England to be on such a low station of civilisation that it will be many years before friendly relations can be resumed. It is therefore below our dignity and honour to wear an English badge.—"The Ironmonger" (London).

NEWS FROM BERLIN.

(German Wireless, per the London "Times," "Morning Post," and "Daily Mail.")

GERMAN ATROCITIES.

The "North-German Gazette" reports from South Africa that a one-eyed cripple has been conveyed to South Africa from an English home for cripples to demonstrate German atrocities.

ROUMANIA'S POSITION.

Contrary to Reuter's attempts to explain eventual Roumanian financial business with London as a political loan, Roumanian circles in Berlin strongly affirm that Roumania would never do any business restricting her freedom of political action.

It is semi-officially reported from Bukarest that Roumania is to supply Germany with an agreed-upon large quantity of grain, Germany furnishing the rolling stock for transport.

LEBANON.

As a consequence of the war against the Triple Entente Turkey has declared the Lebanon Statute to be void. This is a blow to French influence in Lebanon.

RAW MATERIAL.

The value of raw material found and seized by the Germans in Northern France amounts to one milliard marks (£50,000,000). Among them there are materials available for military purposes, such as wool, military cloth, and metal.

THE SUBMARINES.

The German submarine No. 21 sank the coastal steamer "Ben Cruachan," from North Shields, by a torpedo. The commander gave the crew of 21 ten minutes in which to leave the ship. They were picked up later on by a trawler and taken to Fleetwood. The same fate overtook the "Linda Blanche," bound from Manchester to Belfast, off Liverpool. Ten of the crew were saved. A steamer which reached Liverpool reported having seen a third steamer sunk by a submarine.

Off the French coast a German submarine torpedoed and sunk the "Tokomaru." A French boat saved the crew. In the same waters a German submarine torpedoed the steamship "Icaria," but it did not sink, and was towed into Havre under protection of French torpedo boats.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

With the exception of artillery engagements in various places, no significant events have occurred in the Western theatre of war.

On the East Prussian frontier nothing important has happened.

In Poland, north of the Vistula, near Lipno and north-west of Sierpe, there has been some fighting with Russian cavalry.

South of the Vistula we are making progress.

The French official reports of events of the war lately contain grossly mis-stated or absolutely invented announcements. The German Supreme Army Command has no wish to contradict individual cases. Every one can investigate their value with the help of the German official communiques.

THE POPE'S PRAYER FOR PEACE.

Action of the French Government.

Considerable agitation has been caused among the clergy in France by the letter from the Pope ordering prayers for peace in the churches of this and all other countries.

For some time there has been anonymous propaganda, undoubtedly German in its character, urging French people, and especially French women, to agitate for peace.

The insidious influences have been sternly condemned by the French Government, and it is now felt that if public prayers are offered in France for peace they may be misinterpreted by ignorant or faint-hearted people if it is not thoroughly understood that peace must be dependent upon victory of the Allies.

Cardinal Amette, Archbishop of Paris, making allusion on Sunday to the Pope's letter, saw the delicacy of his position, and added the words "and victory" to that of "peace."

I learn that steps have already been taken by the authorities to forbid these prayers in French churches, so Bishops and clergy will be placed in a painful dilemma between religious obedience to the Pontiff and their instincts of patriotism, bound up with their profound belief that France is fighting for what Cardinal Bourne has just called "Christian civilisation."—London "Daily Chronicle."

GERMANS ATTACK RHODESIA.

Abercorn, North-Eastern Rhodesia, is one of the far-away corners of the Empire where the war is as much a reality as in France and Belgium. From that place a British colonist writes to his father about a German dash that was partially successful. In his letter dated December 3 he says:

After writing you last week, great excitement. The Belgian major who was in charge of the troops who went down to Kituta sent word back that the Germans had landed a force 1,000 strong, and all retire on Abercorn. We were some ten miles out and heard the firing; being the reserve, came back, and all retired. In fact, the whole thing was a fiasco. The Germans had landed a small force, and under cover of their two steamers, which were shooting shrapnel (10-pounder), and three Maxims, kept us at bay and routed us. The colonel in charge (English) was furious, and we all marched back next day and found the Germans gone, also £30,000 worth of telegraph stuff, etc. A great coup for the Germans. Had we our 7-pounder there we should have sunk all the boats. We were 800 strong.

Abercorn is fortified with forts at each corner and between and stakes all round. I have the end fort. We are all hoping they'll come. We'll give them a warm reception.

Your letter, together with "Morning Posts," to hand. You amuse me with your letters re retreat. Nobody at the time was wanted in Abercorn. I guarded the farms at the Saisi (river) for a fortnight, and then, as requested, retired to Kasama. Dr. — (who came that time 100 miles to see me when ill) stayed a few days, and when Germans were reported retired to —, 150 miles away, leaving no doctor! No one thought Abercorn would be attacked, and when it was, on September 5, Bisset, the postmaster, worked the maxim and 40 police; reinforcements, which were sent for, arrived 130 strong during the attack, but the Maxim did the work. There was no running away. You can't stay on your farms, you'd be murdered. There are now 250 native troops and 19 white men, two maxims, and a 7-pounder.

I feed on my own here, and have made a nice little shanty. I sleep beside the fort, and visit pickets once a night.

There is little to do. Still making trenches in case the Germans come and connecting forts with telephone wires.

In a postscript, dated December 4th, the writer continues: German small force reported to have crossed border. Is it an advanced guard? I wonder. We have all been given new rifles, very nice ones. News from Europe scanty. Hope the Russians win the great battle now in progress.—London "Morning Post."

RECRUITING FOR THE BRITISH ARMY IN IRELAND.

A courtmartial at Cork sentenced David Guiney to 112 days' hard labour for having, at Bruree, used words calculated to prejudice recruiting.—"Daily Independent."

The "Northern Standard" (Monaghan) expresses disappointment at the result of the recruiting meeting held in Monaghan Town Hall on Thursday in connection with the Ulster Volunteer movement. "Is it," asks the journal, "that the spirit of patriotism is dead? Is it a case of pure funk? Or is it due to the fact that the men have not got the right lead?" "We cannot close our eyes," the "Standard" adds, "to the fact that, in this instance, the appeal was made specially to the local members of the Ulster Volunteer Force, who marched in a body to the hall. And to think that of this large body, after listening to the speeches made and the reasons advanced why they should come forward . . . only four were possessed of the manliness and spirit sufficient to enable them to do so is, in our opinion, a reflection on the U.V.F. in the country which cannot be explained away or glossed over."—"Daily Independent."

Speaking at a Unionist recruiting meeting at Rockcorry, near Ballybay, General Sir George Richardson said that if his audience required an incentive to recruit they should carry their minds back to the dark days of 1913, and cherish memories of the good fellows who stood by them in their hour of trouble. Now it was their turn. They should deny these good fellows nothing; they should give them of their best, and they would never forget that Ulster rallied to their assistance when assistance was most needed. It might be said that recruiting had weakened their position in Ulster, but they had only to think what a valuable asset 40,000 or 50,000 trained men, men with vast field experience, would be

should ever their services be called on to uphold the cause for which they signed the Covenant.

Not a single member of the audience enlisted.—"Irish News," Belfast.

HOW TO READ THE WAR NEWS.

EXPLAINED BY THE "NEW YORK AMERICAN."

Captain Fortescue's Despatch.

Warsaw, Jan. 18.—A nice question confronts the Germans now—whether to attempt to maintain themselves in Poland or to retire to their own frontier. If General von Hindenburg's army strives to hold the position it occupies at present during the rest of the winter good judges estimate it will lose 25 per cent. of its effectives before spring. Part of this loss will be due to the Russian guns, but a large portion will come through sickness—and these sacrifices will bring no results.

Every sign points to the fact that the wonderful German fighting machine is beginning to crack. During the last few weeks it has shown unmistakable signs of weakening at points of contact. **It is still capable of heavy fighting—be sure of that—but** I am of the opinion that it has passed the period of its highest power on the Russian front.

The great German General Staff may decide upon withdrawal for the winter to their own boundaries. Such a movement would be a moral defeat, but in view of their lines of communication the narrower battle area would be a safer experiment than the attempted occupation of seven of the ten governments of Poland.

Germans Hold Railways.

The operations in East Prussia have a bearing on the situation here. A lieutenant-colonel from that district tells me that the Russian Army of the North is making slow but sure gains in this almost impossible country. Two of the outer forts of Loetzen have fallen, **but the Germans hold most of the railways. This leaves the north of Poland open to invasion,** but should the Germans try to force their way to the south they will find a surprising number of Russian corps awaiting them.

The Germans are making their main effort, not in the North, but in the South. **Their army is advancing along the Czenstochowa-Vloszczoa-Kielce line and has arrived at the latter city.** It never has been the plan of the Russians to hold this point, as the position is distinctly disadvantageous. It has been considered a better defensive plan should the Germans threaten seriously this southern district, to concentrate in the vicinity of Radom.

The Russians are masters of defensive warfare, and in fighting of this character the problem of the supply departments is simplified. **Possibly the movement against Kielce will have the effect of postponing the promised Russian offensive.** In my opinion such a postponement might be advantageous.

The aviators report much movement in Lowicz, which is interpreted as an evacuation of the town. If this is so the German wave that has threatened Warsaw has broken.

Great Importance of Captain Fortescue's News from Russia.

("American" News Editor's Note.)

It is not necessary to call attention to the obvious great importance of the foregoing cable dispatch to the "New York American" from such a highly skilful military observer as Captain Fortescue, formerly the military aide at the White House. But it may be pointed out again that intelligent readers must make due allowance for cable despatches from Russia, which must necessarily be written in a form to suit the Russian army censor, otherwise no correspondent could get his despatch sent over the telegraph lines, all of which are controlled by the Russian Government.

War despatches to the "New York American" cannot be sent in code, which is forbidden, and must be written in plain English or French. The "New York American's" war despatches are printed exactly as received; they include words or phrases so favourable to the Russians that the whole message is allowed to pass.

Fact and Opinion.

The intelligent reader must pick out the statements of fact, often of supreme importance, and ignore expressions of mere opinion, which are sometimes unimportant. The expressions of opinions sometimes serve as mere "carriers" for the important facts in the telegram.

The "New York American" has emphasised

Keep this before your mind: "Everything that is not Irish must be Foreign"

You who refuse to buy foreign goods. We who sell Irish Goods only.

GLEESON & CO.,
TAILORS & DRAPERS,
11 UP. O'CONNELL STREET, DUBLIN.

four very important facts in the foregoing cablegram by setting them in heavy face type, without altering a word of the telegram as received from Warsaw. The news in the foregoing despatch is the most significant and important received from the Russian battlefield for two weeks, for it says:

FIRST, that the German army in Poland is in condition for heavy fighting;

SECOND, that the Germans hold most of the railways in East Prussia, and may advance at any time from North Poland toward Warsaw;

THIRD, that the Germans have taken Kielce, an important Russian base and the most important railroad junction north-east of Cracow, thus cutting the former line of communication behind the Russian army, which was threatening German Silesia, and

FOURTH, that the Germans' attack on Kielce probably will compel the Russian army now before Cracow to fall back, to save its communications. This will postpone indefinitely the long-threatened invasion of German Silesia by the Russian army, which, as Hilaire Belloc has repeatedly pointed out in his articles in the "New York American," has been since the opening of the war the supreme objective of the Grand Duke Nicholas and all Russian strategists.

Outnumbered by Russians.

Apparently the German attack on Warsaw has failed on account of the mere numbers of the Russian troops. In that whole theatre of war from the Baltic Sea to the Carpathian mountains, about 260 miles, it is estimated that there are not fewer than 4,000,000 Russian soldiers, counting the reserves and the 1914 recruits. It is estimated that there are 2,000,000 Germans, including reserves, and about 800,000 Austrians.

The Germans have twice got within two days' march of Warsaw, but have been turned back by superior numbers. But in spite of their greatly superior forces the Russians have been able to make no headway against the German legions, either in East Prussia, on the north, or before Warsaw, at the centre, or upon Cracow, at the south, the extreme right of the German line.

And now the movement against Kielce, which has apparently succeeded, shows that the German strategy has been superior to the Russian.

Kielce is fifteen miles east of the Nida River (the former Russian line), and Radom, the new Russian base, is fifty miles still farther away from Cracow.

NEW GERMAN EXPLOSIVE.

An officer who has been through the entire campaign and is now resting before returning to the front has given me some interesting details concerning a new and extremely powerful explosive which the Germans have been employing now for about a month.

"My battalion facetiously calls these missiles 'bottles of champagne,'" began my informant. "They are cylindrical in form and about as long as a champagne bottle—that is to say, about 12in. to 16in.—and about 5in. to 6in. in diameter. We suppose they are filled with liquid air or liquid carbonic acid.

"These engines are thrown a distance of 300 to 400 yards—this is the maximum—and without any great initial velocity. You can follow the projectile through the air and see where it is going to drop. They are apparently thrown by means of minenwerfer, and when they fall and explode the effect is equivalent to that produced by the explosion of a charge of 50 to 60 kilos (110 to 130 lb.) of melinite. You will realise the terrible explosive force when I tell you that a single 'bottle of champagne' makes a hole of 45ft. to 55ft. in diameter and 30ft. to 40ft. in depth. We cannot tell what it is—we conjecture it is liquefied air in a glass recipient, with a thin metal casing.

"If the Germans could charge their shells

with this explosive they would certainly do so in view of its great force, and if they do not charge their shells with it the reason is probably that it is impossible to fire them with their guns, the initial explosion being capable of causing the explosion of the projectile in the bore. Therefore they are forced to use minenwerfer to project them, and this explains why they can only be sent a very short distance.

"I had a practical demonstration of the terrible effect of these 'bottles at S——, in the neighbourhood of Arras, the other day, when the Germans by no other means than by their use, forced us to evacuate some trenches which we had carried by assault. It is true we recaptured them later.

"I have been told that our aviators have already made use of liquefied air bombs, but I have no personal knowledge of the fact. For the moment we have nothing of this nature with which to counter the Germans. Our melinite produces similar results on condition that a far greater volume is employed."—London "Daily News."

AMERICA AND THE ALLIES.

Ex-Commander Hobson, of "Merrimac" fame, speaking in the House of Representatives as a member of Alabama, made a sensational speech with regard to the foreign relations of the United States.

He insinuated that the Administration had entered into a compact with Japan, the effect of which was the withdrawal of the American Fleet from the Pacific and an early retirement from the Philippines.

He declared that the Administration was giving aid and comfort to the Allies while withholding them from Germany.—"Sunday Chronicle" (Manchester).

THE "DACIA" SAILS.

The "Dacia" sailed at noon on Sunday, bound for Rotterdam.—London "Morning Post."

THE AMSTERDAM "TELEGRAAF" AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

The chief editor of the "Telegraaf," which is practically the only Dutch paper which has prevented Holland from being poisoned with a pro-German feeling, has started an action against Lieut. J. Mallinckrodt, asking for damages of 10,000 guilders for asserting that the "Telegraaf" was being paid by the British Government to create a pro-Anglo-French feeling.

Lieut. Mallinckrodt is the officer who gave the order to shoot when irregularities occurred at the Belgian internment camp at Ziest. As a result of this shooting some Belgian soldiers were killed.—London "Daily Chronicle."

"Liberty of the Press."

"The Irish Prisoners in Germany."

SEE

"The SPARK."

FIRST NUMBER SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

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б а с.

MAC CONSLINNE.—Fuar Tomár Mac Conslinne, 10 Chattermont Mall, bair Oia Dóimnais, 31ad lá d'Éanáir, 1915. Di ré 64 d'aoir. Cuirfeadh é i nliath Stór Naordéan an 3ad lá d'Feabhra. Páiomáireac. So ndéanair Oia Trócaire air.

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