

SCISSORS AND PASTE

Vol. 1. No. 10.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1915.

ONE HALFPENNY.

HOW THE "FORMIDABLE" WAS SUNK.

On the night of 31st December-1st January, His Majesty's ship "Formidable," Captain Arthur N. Loxley, was in company with the rest of the squadron to which she belonged. The squadron was off Torbay. It was disposed in line ahead; that is, in single file. The "Formidable" was the last ship in the line. The weather was clear, the moon was shining, the sea choppy but not very rough. German submarines were known to be in the Channel. In these circumstances, the squadron, disposed in line ahead, was steaming slowly. It was not accompanied by destroyers. No conditions except lying at anchor could have been more favourable to attack by submarines. It is obvious, even to the layman, that a line of big ships passing slowly in bright moonlight presents an easy target to a submarine. A submarine, in a breaking sea, can rise to the surface undetected, get her bearings, and, either remaining awash or sinking, discharge a torpedo at the line, with every chance that if it missed one ship it would hit the next. It is therefore the usual practice in cruising, in the case of a single ship, to proceed at a high speed and upon a zig-zag course, these conditions being embarrassing to the submarine, which is a slow vessel. In the case of a squadron, it is the practice to surround the heavy ships with a screen of destroyers, whose high speed and handiness afford a reasonable measure of defence against submarines. This precaution was neglected in respect of the squadron to which the "Formidable" belonged.

The Disaster.

Early in the morning the "Formidable" was struck by a torpedo, and shortly afterwards she was struck by a second torpedo. Vice-Admiral Sir Lewis Bayly then took the rest of the squadron away, leaving a light cruiser to stand by the "Formidable" in order to save life. It was apparently to this cruiser that Captain Loxley was signalling when the "Formidable" went down. About the time she was struck the wind suddenly freshened to a gale and the sea rose rapidly. The published accounts of survivors show with what difficulty the boats were got away and how hardly they were saved. Having issued a brief announcement on January 1 of the loss of the "Formidable," the Admiralty apparently did not consider the loss of some 600 lives and of a valuable ship of enough importance to mention the matter again. It was not until Lord Crewe, on the Thursday following, in the House of Lords, announced in the course of his speech that the Admiralty had definitely decided that the loss was due to a submarine attack, that the public received any further official information; and as in these days people are not greatly interested in political speeches the passage might easily have been overlooked.—London "Morning Post."

BRITISH OFFICERS SENT TO A FORTRESS BY THE DUTCH.

According to information from Groningen about 30 British officers have been transferred to the fortress of Bodegraven.—London "Daily News."

FIGHTING ON THE INDIAN FRONTIER.

The Khostwals' raid into Tochi on the 7th inst. has revealed the effectiveness of the organisation for the defence of the North, the Waziristan Militia, who repelled the raiders, inflicting sharp punishment without demanding assistance from the regulars from Bannu. The Khostwals are notorious for their turbulence, having frequently rebelled against the Ameer. Khost constitutes a species of frontier Alsatia, favouring raids and obstructing pursuit owing to mountainous configuration. The Ameer frequently and unsuccessfully has striven to break up robber bands among important tribes. Elsewhere on the frontier no sign of unrest is visible.—London "Times."

THE MARCH TO THE SUBZ CANAL.

Reuter's Agency has received from an Englishman who has just reached London from Jerusalem an interesting account of the military situation. He states that a force of 5,000 Ottoman infantry with four 6-in. guns left there on Christmas Eve en route for Egypt. A week previously 30 German officers had passed through for the Egyptian frontier. Great quantities of sacks had been commandeered by the authorities, and these were certainly intended, according to the Turkish soldiers' belief, to be filled with sand to dam the Suez Canal. In addition to the 30 German officers above mentioned, 24 were staying at one hotel in Jerusalem.

A large number of troops had already been despatched from Damascus, and many others had passed through Jerusalem. It was generally believed that between 30,000 and 40,000 men had left for the invasion of Egypt. These men were to be joined later on by 10,000 Bedouins. Reuter's informant, in referring to the German influence, said that this was in evidence in all directions.—London "Daily News."

The joy-bells at the (German) Asiatic Society meeting were rung by Professor Jaekch, who recently returned from a trip to Constantinople. This is his forecast of coming events:—

"The advance against the Suez Canal and Egypt is still in progress of preparation. This enables the English to complete comprehensive defensive arrangements on the canal, but they will not be able to prevent the commencement with full strength and the successful carrying out of the attack on 'England's spine.' This will be understood when the right moment has arrived. If it must be the attack will be supported by contingents of the German Army, for we must not remain in any doubt that we can only definitely square accounts with England when we succeed in clutching at her most vulnerable point, the Suez Canal.

"From Russian plans of conquest on the line Petrograd-Constantinople-Mediterranean, as well as from English lust for supremacy over Arabia, the link between Cairo and Calcutta, the Turks expect to be rescued only by Germany. It is, on the other hand, a certainty that a Russian Constantinople would dig the eternal grave of our world-economic

aspirations, which are comprehended by the Slogan - North Sea - Constantinople - Bagdad - Indian Ocean."—London "Daily Mail."

WELSHMEN AND THE WAR.

At a meeting of the Montgomeryshire Recruiting Committee Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn remarked that some of the districts of the county, mostly the upland districts, sent hardly any men.

Mr. J. H. Tonge spoke of the reluctance of farmers' sons to join, and said that when he had visited some farms they told him that if he came again they would shoot him.

Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn said that he knew that in other places when recruiters had been around the men had run up in the hills and hidden themselves. They were acting like fools or children. They refused to go to a fair where there were recruiters.

Arrangements were made for more house-to-house canvassing.—London "Daily News."

CARDINAL MERCIER.

DENIES HE WAS ARRESTED.

According to the Brussels correspondent of the "Tilburgsche Courant," a priest who saw Cardinal Mercier last Saturday assured the correspondent that the Cardinal told him he had not been a prisoner in his palace; he had only been subjected to interrogation, and could have left his palace at will.—London "Daily News."

The "Kolnische Volkszeitung," official organ of the Catholic Church in Germany, describes Cardinal Mercier's pastoral letter as "an expression born of over-excited patriotism which may be regarded as extenuation of some of the sentiments which offend German susceptibilities." The "Volkszeitung" rejoices that the German Government "stretched out its hand in the direction of an amicable adjustment of the incident, thereby upsetting the calculations of our enemies."—London "Daily Mail."

I learn on high authority that the Pope, in reply to King Albert's telegram, sent his Majesty a message couched in the most cordial terms. His Holiness is understood to have stated that he did not regard the incident as grave, and that he looked upon the matter as closed.—London "Daily Telegraph" (Havre Correspondent).

THE IMPRISONMENT OF ARCHBISHOP SZEPTYCKI.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor and the Press made a great hullabaloo about the alleged arrest of Cardinal Mercier, yet the writer has no recollection of their having uttered a single word of protest when the Russians arrested Count Szeptycki, the aged and beloved Archbishop of Lemberg, and carried him off, and confined him in the fortress of Kiev. His sole offence was that on the outbreak of hostilities, before the Russian invasion of Galicia, he exhorted his people to remain loyal to the Empire.—C. F. Dixon-Johnson in the "Labour Leader."

Scissors and Paste.

(Issued every Wednesday and Saturday.)

Send your Subscription at once to the Manager,
67 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin.

NOTICE.—All literary communications should be addressed to the Editor, "SCISSORS AND PASTE," 67 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin. Business communications to the Manager.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1915.

IRELAND.

We (the English) have made Ireland—I speak it deliberately—the most degraded and the most miserable country in the world.—Joseph Kay ("Social Condition of the People," Vol. I.).

THE ENGLISH AND THEIR CONQUESTS.

"The English seem never to have understood the art of governing their provinces, and have always treated them in such a manner, as either to put them under necessity or subject them to the temptation of casting off their Government whenever an opportunity offered. It was a series of this impolitic conduct which lost them Normandy, Poitou, Anjou, Guyenne, and all the dominions which they formerly held in France. . . . When Rochelle, Saintes, Engoulême, and other towns in those provinces, submitted to the King of France, they took particular care to insert in their capitulations an express article, that in any circumstances or distress of the affairs of France, they should never be delivered back into the power of the English. It is not a little surprising that a thinking people, as the English are, should not grow wiser by any experience, and after losing such considerable territories abroad by their oppressive treatment of them, should go on to hazard the loss of Ireland, and endeavour the ruin of a colony of their own countrymen planted in that kingdom."—Carte (Life of Ormonde, Vol. VI.).

PATRICK PAGET O'SHAUGHNESSY.

Go through the streets of business in London; you will find no thriving tradesman with a Milesian name over his door. The O' is fatal. We speak it with a mixture of regret and indignation, that no man whose name marks a mere Irish origin, can look for success in any trade depending on the patronage of the west-end inhabitants of London. We have heard of an adventurer called Patrick O'Shaughnessy, a fashionable bootmaker, who once made the attempt. Conscious of his danger, he did his best to neutralise the obnoxious words by the introduction of an English "prenomen." It was at the time of the Marquis of Anglesea's popularity, and he chose, as the most auspicious, the family name of that nobleman, calling himself Patrick Paget O'Shaughnessy. Thus, the "Paget" shone forth in golden letters over his door, while the "Patrick" at one side, and the "O'Shaughnessy" at the other, were partly screened from public animadversion by the friendly curve of either window. Had he lived opposite to a thoroughfare his fortune would have been made. Unhappily for Patrick, however, his shop was so situated that whether going or coming, the proscribed words first caught the eye of the passenger. He was in the Gazette in three months after. We know another instance of an Irish gentleman in lodgings in London, asking the name of his servant. The girl said her name was Jane Williams. The gentleman expressed surprise, as, he said, her countenance had assured him she was a countrywoman. The girl, after some hesitation, confessed that her real name was Jane Lynch, that she had been born in Cork, but reared in St. Giles's, and that she had been obliged to take the English name of Williams to obtain a place. The anecdotes may appear trifling: such trifles have been of material injury to Ireland. How strongly does the conduct of the absentee Irish, whose heartless and cowardly subserviency to fashion, forces their own countrymen to these unworthy shifts for subsistence in a foreign land, contrast with that of the kindly Scot wherever he is to be found. But it is not in London only, nor in servile occupations alone, that the mischief of this cruel prejudice is felt. Many of the manufacturers of Dublin must cross the channel and return under fictitious names into their native market before they can conciliate the custom of our own resident gentry. Let us give the

history of an English-made saddle purchased some time since in Dublin. The beasts from whose hides the greater part of it is made, were probably reared in Connaught, sold at Ballinasloe, slaughtered and skinned in Cork, and the hides tanned in Dublin. The leather was then sent to England to dress, and returned to Dublin to be manufactured; was again reshipped to England in its manufactured shape, to get a new name, and has been a third time sent back to Dublin to command that market under false pretences, which it dared not solicit in its genuine character. If the statement seem too startling, we will corroborate it with another. A fashionable Dublin lady purchases a dress at a high price as a French or Swiss muslin; the piece from which it has been cut is the produce of an Irish loom; the yarn was spun in Belfast, the fabric was woven in Dublin; the pattern was designed and stamped upon it on the banks of the Liffey; yet the goods have been regularly consigned from London or Bristol to the retailer. Let us give another anecdote. There is a metal billiard table manufactory in Dublin. The metal platform of the table is planed by machinery which shaves it as smooth as a plate of glass. The tables are supplied for sale to a London house. Some months ago, a Galway gentleman came to the ingenious and enterprising proprietor, and priced a table. The sum asked was fifty pounds. The Connaught man demurred, thinking it better to give more money for a superior article in the English market. The manufacturer, who knew his business, made no abatement, and the customer went his way. In less than a month after, the same table brought seventy guineas in a London warehouse, and the purchaser was the identical gentleman from Galway.—"Dublin University Magazine" (1837).

GERMANS AND IRISH.

I am told by a nurse, just back from the front, that if you want to be treated by the Germans with every kindness it is only necessary to declare yourself to be Irish—and they do not seem to know the difference between Cork and Belfast. So, in case of invasion, you all know what to do.—London "Mail."

SCOTS HUMOUR.

"Are ye fur jivin' the Army?"
"Me! Did ye no see that Kitchener mention't me in his speech?"
"Awa ye go!"
"Sure's death. He said we wid fecht tae the last man. That's me!"—"Forward," Glasgow.

THE CENSOR AND THE BIBLE.

Mr. H. J. Solomons, of Johannesburg, writes:—

"We have been printing a paper here for three months, and this week the Censor has censored it, and the funniest part of the whole thing is that the issue censored contains nothing else but quotations from the Bible, starting off with the Commandment—'Thou shalt not kill.'"

The next thing you will hear of, will be that the Bible has been put on the Militarist "Index Expurgatorius." In this country it is now illegal to be a Christian and love your enemies.—"Forward," Glasgow.

Finally, to be on the safe side, we submitted for publication, without comment, a number of quotations from the Bible, and of these the following, among others, were struck out by the Censor:—

Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry thy voice, and that which has wings shall tell the matter.—Ecclesiastes, ch. 10, v. 20.

Why should ye be stricken any more? Ye will revolt more and more. . . . Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate.—Isaiah, ch. 1, v. 5, 7.

When thou comest nigh unto a city to fight against it, then proclaim peace unto it. And it shall be, if it make the answer of peace, and open unto thee, then it shall be that the people that is found therein shall be tributaries unto thee, and they shall serve thee. And if it will make no peace with thee, but will make war against thee, then thou shalt besiege it, and when the Lord thy God hath delivered it unto thy hands, thou shalt smite every male thereof with the edge of the sword; but the women,

and the little ones, and the cattle, and all that is in the city, shalt thou take unto thyself."—Deuteronomy, ch. 20, v. 10-14.

And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear; your hands are full of blood.—Isaiah, ch. 1, v. 15.

And he brought out the people that were in it, and cut them with saws, and with harrows of irons, and with axes.—I. Chronicles, ch. 20, v. 3.

All they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.—Matthew, ch. 26, v. 52.

For the leaders of the people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.—Isaiah, ch. 9, v. 16.

So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain, which taketh away the life of the owners thereof. Wisdom crieth without, she uttereth her voice in the street. How long, ye simple one, will ye love simplicity?—Proverbs, ch. 1, v. 19, 20, 22.

Strive not with a man without cause if he have done thee no harm.—Proverbs, ch. 3, v. 30.

Thou shalt not kill.—Exodus, ch. 20, v. 13.

We had a further batch of well-known Scripture quotations ready, but after the above achievements considered that it was waste of time to deal further with the censor-man.—

S. P. Bunting, Editor of "War on War Gazette," Johannesburg, in the "Labour Leader" (Manchester).

FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS ADMITTED TO GERMANY.

While on the subject of the Press I may say that it is a mistake to imagine that foreign newspapers are not countenanced in Germany or allowed to enter the country. In Berlin I noticed in the leading cafes a certain number of French and Swiss newspapers, which seemed to be in great demand; and here in Leipzig the principal newspaper kiosk sells regularly not only the "Figaro," the "Journal," and the "Matin," but also a limited number of English newspapers, including London halfpenny sensational dailies. The prices of these newspapers are all normal—a fact which I mention because before going to Germany I read in several English newspapers that copies of their issues were being sold in Belgium and Germany at fantastic prices. I never saw the slightest sign of any newspaper being sold except at an ordinary price, nor any reason why one should have been sold at an extraordinary price. I happened to see a German soldier buying the Paris "Journal," and spending some time reading it in one of the principal streets of Leipzig—a proof that such an act was not looked upon askance.—London "Morning Post" (Special Correspondent).

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN ARMY.

A Sydney statistician has calculated, from cable messages in the Sydney "Sun," all the Austrians who have been killed and captured by the Russians since the war began, and has found that up to Monday last only 27 members of the Austrian army were left to face the Allies. At that rate, the war should soon be over.—"Catholic Press" (Sydney).

STREET SCENES IN BERLIN.

In peace time no large city in the world has so few ragged and forlorn-looking people as Berlin; and even now, in war time, matters have not changed in this respect. I could count on my fingers the few men, for the most part near the railway stations, and probably refugees from East Prussia, whom I met carrying their clothes and possessions in a bundle with them. A special office exists for relieving their necessities. At one door the applicants for assistance go in, and at another enter those who have anything to give, whether in money or kind, and it seems to me that the donors with their gifts are more numerous than the applicants for relief. They form, indeed, a positive queue. Without doubt since the war far more licences have been granted than formerly to newspaper sellers and vendors of picture postcards and all kinds of gimcracks and knickknacks. In Berlin itself a great many middle-aged women may be seen selling things in the streets at present, which used not to be the case. I ought to add, however, that a number of men not fit for military service have been allowed to go to various neutral countries to sell German newspapers and German illustrated publications, more or less propagandist in nature.—London "Morning Post" (Special Correspondent).

NEWS FROM BERLIN.

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

PRZEMYSL.

The rumour circulated by the Russian newspaper that the fortress Przemyśl had sent an officer with a flag of truce to the enemy on January 10 is naturally a pure invention, and its object can only be to hide the Russian absolute impotence against the fortress.

FRENCH DEFEATS.

Berlin, Thursday.

In the dunes at Nieuport and south-east of Ypres artillery combats are going on. The enemy directed an extremely strong fire on Westende, which they will soon have entirely destroyed. Their torpedo boats disappeared quickly as soon as they received our fire.

In continuation of their activities on January 12 north-east of Soissons our troops have again made an attack on the heights of Vregny, to the east of hill 132, and also cleared this elevated plain of the enemy. In the pouring rain and the deeply sodden clay, trench after trench was taken by storm until after dark, and the enemy was driven back to the border of the elevated plain.

Fourteen French officers and 1,130 men were taken prisoners, and four cannon, four machine guns, and one searchlight was captured—a brilliant feat of arms for our troops under the very eyes of their uppermost War Lord.

North-east of the camp of Chalons the French attacked again yesterday in the morning and afternoon with strong forces. To the east of Perthes they penetrated in certain places into our trenches, but they were repulsed by energetic counter-attacks and driven back with heavy losses into their own positions, leaving 100 prisoners in our hands.

In the Argonne and the Vosges nothing of importance has happened.

THE EASTERN FRONT.

Main Headquarters reports this afternoon as follows:—

In the eastern theatre of the war Russian attacks south-east of Gumbinnen and east of Loozen have been repulsed, many hundreds of prisoners being taken.

The situation in Northern Poland is the same.

Our attacks west of the Vistula are being continued.

Nothing of importance has happened on the eastern bank of the Pilitza.

NEWS FROM VIENNA.

It is reported from Vienna that the incessant attacks of the enemy on the Lower Nida are chiefly directed on one point situated in our line of defence.

Supported over the whole front by violent artillery fire, the hostile infantry is endeavouring to gain ground and capture this place. He fails, however, over and over again, suffering heavy losses.

Before our own positions in Galicia and in the Carpathians quiet prevails almost everywhere. Our smaller operations are favoured by mists and snowstorms. On several points there have been successful attacks and skirmishes.

Military attaches of neutral countries who accompanied the German western army have now left for the east front.

THE RESIGNATION OF BERCHTOLD.

The Foreign Minister, Count Berchtold, has resigned. His successor will be the Hungarian Minister, Baron Burian. Count Berchtold's resignation resulted from purely personal reasons. The nature of our politics remain absolutely the same. Count Berchtold received the Diamond Great Cross of the St. Stephen's Order, accompanied by a personal letter of the Austrian Kaiser.

AMERICAN PRESS AND ENGLAND.

The "World," of Washington (? New York), has sharply censured Grey's Note and calls it evasive. The correspondent of "The Times" reports that the keynote of the American papers is that the reply of Gray leaves the position unchanged.

MADE IN GERMANY.

We are afraid that Ministers are running the risk of being haled up, charged with trading with the enemy. One of the first contracts placed on the outbreak of war was for 500 gross of pencils to be made in Austria. Now the latest flannel underwear served out to Tommy bears the words, "Sanitary underwear. Unshrinkable. Made in Germany." We must keep our eyes skinned!—"John Bull" (London).

AMERICA AND ENGLAND.

THE "DACIA."

The case of the "Dacia" is at present a cloud no bigger than a man's hand; it may overcast the whole sky, and it is therefore important that the public should understand something of the issues involved. Our Washington Correspondent has informed us from time to time of the facts of the case, but they may be shortly recapitulated. The "Dacia," then, is one of many German vessels which sought refuge in American ports to avoid capture at the beginning of the war. She belongs, or belonged, to the Hamburg-America Line, and used to carry cotton between New Orleans, Galveston, and other Gulf ports on the one side, and Bremen on the other. When the war broke out she sought refuge in Port Arthur (Texas), and lay there for about five months. She was then taken over by an American citizen of German extraction, one Edward N. Breitung, of Michigan, whose father was a German American connected with the copper industry, and also with Congress. The new owner of the vessel has not hitherto been connected with shipping. The transfer was registered by the United States Government under a recent Act of Congress, by which foreign ships can be transferred to American ownership, and there seems to be no doubt that from the American point of view it is a legal transfer. The ship is now being loaded with cotton, and is shortly to sail from Galveston for Bremen, having obtained American insurance for both vessel and cargo. These are the main facts of the case, as we are at present informed, and the question to be settled is whether the British Government will recognise the transfer as legal. If it is allowed to be valid it will doubtless be taken as a precedent for the transfer of other more important German ships, like the Vaterland, which will then under the American flag be able to sail to German ports with cargoes of food, cotton, and other merchandise, and when they reach Europe may possibly be re-transferred to the German flag—and appear in due time as armed auxiliaries. The whole position is thorny and difficult, the more so as it has certainly been contrived by the enemy to embroil this country with the United States. On the one side, if the ship is seized the United States will be bound to claim that it is an American vessel, protected by their flag; on the other side, if it is allowed through, it bursts the boom and permits the whole German mercantile marine to pass across the Atlantic from the ports in which it is interned to its own harbours. It is a ticklish question, and it cannot be evaded. The consequences are too serious to the Allies and to ourselves. If it is permitted and the Declaration of London is not denounced, it will probably lead to a large transference of British sea-borne trade to neutral ships. The simple way out of the whole difficulty will be to denounce the Declaration of Paris and declare all enemy goods liable to capture. As the Declaration has been repeatedly violated by Germany in the present war, notably in the case of the ships sunk by the "Emden," there could be no grievance to neutrals in such a course. It would also be possible, under the present conditions, to make both food and cotton contraband if the United States persists in this action of taking over enemy vessels. That is an instrument which the Imperial Government may use with effect, altogether apart from the legal question of whether the transfer of the "Dacia" can be shown to be void. In substance, as we all know, it evades the result of war and helps the enemy. The right to use the sea power of England is vital to the safety and trade of England, and so far it has not been used with anything like full effect against Germany.—London "Morning Post."

"SHE MUST BE STOPPED."

Whatever might be thought of the acquisition of the ships by the American Government and their employment in such admittedly neutral commerce as that between the United States and South America, there can be little question that the "Dacia," plying her accustomed routes but under another flag, presents a problem of which there can be only one solution. If she sails she must be stopped, and the novel points of international laws which she threatens to raise must be brought to a definite decision.—London "Times."

ENGLAND AND THE NEUTRAL NATIONS.

The "Springfield Republican," an influential newspaper in New England, says:—The problems of how to adapt the rules of

international law to the task of defeating Germany and Austria-Hungary by limiting their imports from the outside world was bound to make trouble for the Allies. The root of the diplomatic trouble which Great Britain and France are now beginning to experience with leading neutral States is to be found in the fact that the Western European Allies are endeavouring to force economic isolation upon Germany and Austria-Hungary, notwithstanding the large number of neutral countries which border the territories of those fighting Powers. It is an effort without precedent since neutral rights came to be well established, in a belligerent world, and inevitably the undertaking could hardly be successful without practices hitherto considered inadmissible by neutrals whose foreign trade was interfered with. Neutral ships must be held up in drag-net style on the general assumption that some, at least, of the cargoes will reach the enemy's country, although no evidence whatever may be at hand that the particular ship detained and diverted from her regular sailing route carries enemy goods. The drag-net method of enforcing the right of search and detention is really based on the hope of capturing the enemy's contraband, and in effect it amounts to interference with trade between neutrals which has not before been conceded to be permissible. Certainly if the doctrine of continuous voyages is to be in practice extended in this way neutral trade between two great neutral Powers like the United States and Italy might ultimately be placed entirely at the mercy of other countries.—London "Daily News."

"SWEDISH PEOPLE WILL NEVER ADMIT" BRITISH CLAIMS.

The British reply to the American Note on the contraband question is not well received in Sweden. Stockholm's "Dagblad," the leading Swedish Conservative newspaper, says that Sir Edward Grey's Note "merely reaffirms the intention of Great Britain to adhere to her policy of harassing and preventing legitimate trade."

The journal strenuously maintains that the figures quoted by the British Note represent nothing more than the natural increase of exports to Sweden, due to the changes which the war has forcibly produced in the international exchange of commodities.

"Our importation of raw material and of necessities is regulated, and can only be regulated, by the needs of the country in each particular case, and the times indeed are not such as to allow Sweden to let her stores be depleted. The Swedish people will never admit that Great Britain should have the right to determine or apportion the quantity of goods that Sweden is to be permitted to import."—London "Daily Mail."

THE PANAMA CANAL.

For instance, the "Hamburger Fremdenblatt" makes no claim on the friendship of America in the following words:

"In short, England's answer to her American cousin confirms the old views of justice which the possessors of power in London seem to hold for their own convenience. Everything is allowed, they seem to think, which is not of use to us, and everything which is intended for us, or for the aid of our allies, is contraband. We are convinced that this also is how the answer will be viewed in Washington. The politicians of the United States are just as cool calculators as their business people. What they do they will only do for themselves.

"A few days ago a message was published in America that there had been a landslide in the Panama Canal, and as a result the great battleships of the United States had been forced to stay in the Atlantic. We do not think the report of the landslide in the Panama Canal has the slightest foundation, but we think, with one of the Vienna papers, that it was only a manufactured story from Washington, which, for diplomatic reasons, wished to have their great fighting ships on the east coast in case the relations between Washington and London should take an unfriendly turn.

"President Wilson has a far-reaching means of helping along peace by forcing John Bull to the recognition of the rights of nations. He only needs to forbid the export of war material from the United States, which alone makes England and France capable of carrying on the war further."—London "Daily Mail."

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.

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JAPAN AND GERMANY.

The present war with Germany was entered into hastily and is very unpopular. The people of Japan are beginning to realise that they are now confronted with a new and powerful enemy—Germany—whose people they had never looked upon as enemies, for Japan is greatly indebted to Germany, since many of her people were educated at German universities.

As a direct result of the European War, Japan's international position must be changed. Should Britain be beaten by Germany, there is no interest in the Far East to require Japan to continue her Alliance with Britain. If Britain should win, then the British Government will have no interest in continuing the Alliance, but may, on the contrary, assume a hostile attitude toward Japan in response to the anti-Japanese feeling in Australia and Canada.

From every point of view the entrance of Japan into the present war was suicidal, and it is probable that one of the results will be the fall of the Okuma Ministry.—Sen Katayama in the "Labour Leader" (Manchester).

THE 42-CENTIMETRE GUNS.

In answer to the announcement that England is preparing to construct 42-centimetre guns, a statement has been issued in Germany, probably to reassure people. It says that after many years of investigation at the Krupp works it required more than three years to make one of these guns.—London "Daily Telegraph."

THE ENGLISH AS "COMMON PIRATES."

There is still no German newspaper which indulges in wilder excesses of Chauvinistic rage than the "Frankfurter Zeitung," which has usually been regarded as the most respectable and moderate organ in Germany. It now uses language like this:—

The English have won successes not in any open battle with an enemy capable of resistance, but only where they were greatly superior. Therefore they have compensated themselves by a shameful system of robbing and plundering. They conduct the war not like a civilised people, but like common pirates. As all the world has already seen, ideal motives never had any deciding importance for them from the beginning, but they fought solely for personal and economic interests and in the effort to destroy their chief economic competitor. They no longer have any respect for the law. They acquit themselves of all their obligations, rob private property, and declare all the subjects of enemy States to be prisoners.

Everything which has hitherto passed as international law has been trodden under foot by the English. They have carried on the war not like a Kultur nation, but like a robber State, and their meanest instincts have broken out. That, of course, does not prevent them from posing as the appointed protectors of right and Kultur, but they will no longer impose upon impartial critics by the hypocrisy.—London "Times."

SUBMARINE WAR AGAINST ENGLAND.

A Press Association War Special from Amsterdam says: The "Koelnische Zeitung," which shows a daily growing enmity and hatred towards Great Britain, to-day assents without reserve to the demand of Admiral von Tirpitz, the German Minister of Marine, that submarines shall be used as a weapon against British merchant vessels.

The journal says: From Great Britain's method of warfare of starving Germany we must come to the one conclusion that the entire British people is our enemy, and a submarine war against the British merchantmen must be begun and carried through recklessly.

The air fleet also must take part. If British merchant vessels everywhere where they are within reach of the German submarines are threatened with destruction, then neutrals will find more consideration on the other side of the Channel. We must try and hit the vital point of Great Britain, namely, her merchant fleet.—Dublin "Evening Herald."

BRITISH RECRUITING.

Although the German Press now speaks with more respect of the British Army, a good many journals continue to scoff at the discussions of the recruiting problem. The "Hamburger Nachrichten" says:—

The millions which Kitchener wants, and about which he has talked in advance, will not come. The fact is no longer concealed that the recruiting does not suffice. But what is to be the remedy? They still only mention universal service. It almost looks as if, to begin with, there will be a threat of it. It is strange. The highest and noblest duty which can fall to the lot of the strong man in a strong and brave people, to the citizen of a vigorous State which will not renounce power and independence, the duty of defending the Fatherland, together with all other citizens fit to bear arms—this is in England degraded into a threat.

Universal service, which for our people signifies a blessing and an attainment which may never be renounced, serves in England merely to whip up the sons of the people. "Only wait, and if you will not enlist in return for good gold, universal service will come." Whether this will induce them to enlist is very questionable. And we doubt whether the introduction of universal service is still possible in England without grave internal disturbances.—London "Times."

THE RISE IN PRICES.

Sir,—Does it not strike you as disgraceful, now food prices are advancing by leaps and bounds, that Parliament is not in session? Whoever go short of wages and profits, it seems that the food entrepreneurs and contractors are to be allowed to make their pile. Do you not recall how, at the beginning of the war, those who laid in a stock of food were called food-hogs? Why all through August and September were prices fixed, and now, when the pinch is sorest, no lists are published at all?—Frederick Keller in London "Daily News."

GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR.

Dresden hears that "a Cunarder filled with German prisoners of war, like the ship at Ryde, has been anchored at the entrance to the Thames near Southend-on-Sea to serve as coast defence against German attacks."—London "Daily Mail."

GREAT GERMAN TROOP MOVEMENT.

Amsterdam, Wednesday.

The "Telegraph" learns that all ordinary passenger traffic on the German railways was stopped yesterday until January 18. The trains are being used exclusively for the conveyance of troops and military equipment.—Exchange.

ENGLISH IRONMASTERS AND RECRUITING.

Over 11 per cent. of the Cleveland ironstone miners have joined the Colours, and the question was raised by officials at the quarterly meeting of the Association on December 28 at Middlesborough whether it was not in the best interests of the country to stop further recruiting among the men. The President, Mr. Dack, urged that the industry was one of the first importance to the Government in providing the raw material for munitions of war, and that by remaining at work the members could usefully serve the country.—"The Ironmonger," London.

GAELIC (p. 94).

Cualact Muire (A Religious Sodality for Irish Speakers).—President, Very Rev. P. A. Canon Roche, Adm.; Spiritual Director, Rev. James C. O'Flynn, C.C.; Runaire, Seumas O h-Aodha, B.A.; Cisteoir, Padraig de Burca. Meets on third Wednesday of month in SS. Peter and Paul's Church. The entire service is conducted in Latin and Irish.—"Guy's Cork Almanac," 1915.

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THE INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY OF IRELAND.

A LECTURE, by F. Sheehy-Skeffington, M.A., entitled "Three Phases of War," will be given tomorrow (Sunday) in Council Chamber, Trade Hall, Capel Street, at 8 p.m. Questions and discussion invited. Admission Free.

Printed for the Proprietors by Patrick Mahon, Yarnhall Street, Dublin, and published at the Office, 67 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin.