



1—It is by means of heavy guns such as are shown in this picture that the Italians hope to convince the Teutons along the River Piave that in the twentieth century civilization right only is might. 2—Laborers and soldiers are continually repairing the highways leading to the fighting front wrecked by German shells and heavy traffic. 3—The result of a trench raid; a squad of German prisoners captured by the French and brought into the wire-fenced prison camp.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Japan Offers to Land Troops in Siberia If Allies Say the Word.

EMBASSIES LEAVE PETROGRAD

Traveling Through Bandit-Infested Siberia to Reach Safety—Austria Cannot Break Away From Her Alliance With Germany.

Japan has asked for permission to land troops in Siberia to prevent the vast quantities of munitions and other military stores at Vladivostok and along the lines of the Siberian railroad from falling into the hands of the Germans. It was feared that the Germans might attempt to force the bolsheviks to deliver these stores to the Germans as a part of a peace agreement. Japan announced her willingness to undertake such an expedition by herself or in connection with troops sent by other of the allied nations.

While all officials at Washington are silent and disposed to minimize discussion of the subject it is known that exchanges of opinion are going on with the object of a perfect understanding between Japan, the United States and the other co-belligerents which would make the plan of joint action wholly acceptable to all and thoroughly define its extent and duration.

Russian representatives at Washington oppose action by the Japanese in Siberia, but the co-belligerents are thoroughly alarmed lest the vast quantities of supplies piled up at Vladivostok, bought and paid for with American cash, should fall into the hands of the Germans.

Criticism at home of the failure of Japan to play a larger part in the war is said to have been influential in bringing about the negotiations.

Our boys have had their first taste of the deadly Hun gas. Without warning of any kind gas shells began bursting among the men of an American artillery regiment on the western front, and more than 200 men were down before they could put on gas masks. Eight men died within a few minutes and 200 were taken to hospitals where they suffered every conceivable torture while the doctors worked over them in an effort to get air into their lungs. While the American troops in France have been supplied with gas equipment and with gas shells for the field guns they had never been used, American commanders feeling that they could not bring themselves to so violate all evidences of civilization by such a method of warfare. The gassing of American troops has, however, convinced our commanders at the front that they must fight the Hun in his own way, brutal and inhuman though that way may be, and the Boches will be given a taste of their own weapons.

The strain between Austria and Germany is undoubtedly increasing. Austria's refusal to again attack Russia in spite of Germany's renewal of the war against the bolsheviks has increased the tenseness of the situation existing between the two governments, and it was reported that Germany had practically ordered the Austrian government to send troops into Russia, and that Austria had refused. Austria also refuses to continue the war against Roumania so long as there is a possibility of concluding a peace arrangement with that nation. Poor Roumania, cut off from every possible source of assistance from the outside, without munitions or adequate guns can seemingly do nothing more than accept such peace terms as the Huns may offer.

The most encouraging thing for the future of both Roumania and Russia is the statement made for the allied governments to the effect that any peace that may be forced upon these two countries by the Teutonic nations will not be considered as final, and particularly so if such a peace involves the cession of any territory to the nations

of the central powers. The allied nations are committed to the terms of no annexations and no indemnities for Germany or her cohorts. To permit Germany to seize the best provinces of Russia would mean simply preparing the German people for a repetition of their attack on the world's freedom in the future.

The speech of Count von Hertling, German imperial chancellor, before the reichstag, in reply to President Wilson's most recent address before congress regarding the war aims of the United States, is not regarded by leaders in the United States or England as increasing the chance for peace. Count von Hertling professed acceptance of the four principles of a democratic peace enunciated by President Wilson and disclaimed any intention of conquest but these protestations have not convinced President Wilson and his advisers. It is said that Germany is ready to forgo ambitions of conquest. Other parts of the chancellor's speech are regarded as conclusive proof that Germany intends retaining control, in one form or another, of nearly all the foreign territory that she now occupies.

Count von Hertling's reference to Belgium is far from satisfactory. While hinting that Germany does not contemplate annexing Belgium, the chancellor proposes to impose conditions which would restrict the freedom of action of the kingdom and place it at the mercy of the Teutonic empire.

The entente point of view was expressed by one distinguished diplomat who declared that von Hertling's speech has effectively closed the door to further peace talk. "Belgium is a question of honor," he declared. "It cannot be discussed. So long as the enemy refuses to do justice to Belgium they cannot be expected to perform justice in any other instances."

While the long-distance debate between the statesmen of the belligerent countries has been looked upon with approval by leaders of thought in this country on the theory that no chance of effecting a peace on terms acceptable to the allies should be overlooked, at the same time there has been a feeling that the continued peace talk may have a harmful effect upon the public morale in the allied countries. There has been a determination in Washington not to permit any peace discussions to delay war preparations for one minute, and the only harmful effect, it is declared, would be upon the spirit of the people.

While there are still conflicting opinions as to whether Germany will undertake a real offensive on the west front this spring, reports coming indirectly from Germany indicate that the German public is being prepared for the tremendous losses that must result if such an offensive is attempted. Dispatches from Stockholm declare that the German high command has given the executive committee of the reichstag the confidential information that the contemplated offensive will cost Germany a million men. For this staggering price, it is declared, General von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff have absolutely guaranteed success. Leaders of the majority in the reichstag are said to be reconciled to the offensive as the only thing left for Germany to do, but there is a widespread feeling of pity and horror that a million lives should be sacrificed when victory, however great it may be, will not force peace. The Germans, it is declared, at the most, expect that a big military victory will convince America and England that Germany is unshakable and to make the western world amenable to suggestions for a peace conference.

While the allied commanders realize that the expected German offensive will be a staggering blow to withstand, they are confident that the western line will hold, and that the Hun plans will result in defeat for the central powers. America will soon have half a million men on the western front, England has added nearly half a million more men to her vast army under General Haig, and while the French army is not any larger in numbers than it was, it is stronger in guns and munitions, and the determination of French troops to defeat Germany is stronger if possible, than it was during the long months of the Verdun campaign.

Both the English, the French and the

American forces occupy splendid positions throughout practically the entire line. They are in nearly all cases on the high ground, and it is these strong defensive positions against which Germany must throw her shock troops in massed battalions. The price these troops will pay for even an attempt to break through will be terrific, and in all probability more than the million men von Hindenburg has prophesied. It is not likely that even the iron discipline of the German army will withstand such losses.

Possibility of a disagreement between the United States and Spain because of the refusal of the latter country to supply certain war materials to General Pershing was removed by the signing of an economic agreement, under which General Pershing will get mules, army blankets and other materials from Spain in return for cotton, oil and other commodities from the United States. Success of these negotiations was welcomed by officials in Washington as ability to buy supplies in Spain will save ship tonnage and enable General Pershing to build up his reserve stores more rapidly. The United States was able to bring pressure to bear upon Spain by refusing fuel to Spanish steamers in American ports.

The German invasion of Russia mysteriously slowed up and on March first it was reported from London that the forward movement of the Huns had been stopped on orders from Berlin. At the same time reports from Petrograd were to the effect that the bolsheviks were preparing to make the best possible defense of that city if it was attacked.

On February 28 it was reported from Petrograd that the allied ambassadors had left the Russian capital for Siberia. It is unlikely that they will be able to reach the Pacific coast at Vladivostok in less than three weeks, and the probabilities are that they will be seriously molested by the mobs of armed bandits that are roaming the country from the Ural mountains to beyond Lake Baikal. The bolsheviks have practically no control of any kind beyond the Ural mountains, though it claims to have suppressed the so-called Siberian republic.

Every report received from Austria indicates that that country would willingly seek peace on any fairly reasonable basis offered by the allies, if it were possible for her to do so, but she is so dominated by German influence that it is hardly possible for her to break away. The hold of Germany is maintained through the Austrian army which has been very largely Germanized since the war began.

So it is believed that Austria will have to remain in her unholy partnership despite her war weariness. She has lost 3,500,000 men, her food situation is desperate, and the future, even if Germany could win, is dark for her, for a greater Germany would only mean a more impotent Austria, but she cannot break away. She must continue in the war under pain of being stamped on by the nation that has her in its power.

That is how our allies regard the Austrian situation, and is the explanation of their lukewarmness toward the American effort to widen the rift between the kaiser and Emperor Carl.

The German socialists have not taken kindly to the German government's attitude toward President Wilson's last peace message. During the debate in the reichstag on von Hertling's speech Philipp Scheidemann, socialist, took the emperor to task for his reply to the address of the burgo-master of Hamburg, in which the emperor said: "We desire to live in friendship with neighboring peoples, but victory for the German arms must first be recognized."

"The imperial chancellor frankly stated yesterday that he accepted President Wilson's four principles," said Scheidemann. "This declaration is all the more important when one considers that President Wilson emphasized that his principles were accepted everywhere except by the German military and annexationist party. Well, this party, fortunately, is in this country no longer of decisive importance."

NINE PAIRS SHOES FOR PERSHING MEN

GENERAL ASKS FOR LARGE FOOTWEAR SUPPLY FOR SOLDIERS IN FRANCE.

AIRPLANE MISHAPS ARE FEW

With Hundreds of Men Learning to Fly, War Department Records Show Number of Accidents at Military Aviation Fields Comparatively Small.

Washington.—Gen. Pershing has requested shipment of 18,500 pairs of shoes for each 25,000 men monthly, which is approximately nine pairs of shoes per man per year. This quantity is in excess of actual consumption and is being used to build up a reserve for all troops in France. When such a supply is accumulated, the quantities per man will be reduced.

The quartermaster-general's department now has on hand and due on outstanding contracts, 7,564,000 field shoes and 7,873,000 marching shoes. It will be necessary to secure more than a million additional shoes during the year.

Records of the war department show that from the beginning of training in June, 1917, to February 22, 1918, the fatalities at military aviation fields in this country have been 31; 10 officers and 29 cadets killed in training flights, and 12 men killed in unauthorized flights and ground accidents.

Since the training began in the United States, student aviators have flown considerably more than 100,000 miles. Hundreds of hitherto inexperienced men have been learning to fly. Their early flights are under the guidance of instructors, and prior to these flights two or more months are spent in preliminary ground work. There comes a time, however, when every student aviator must take his machine up alone, and every precaution has been taken to reduce the number of accidents and safeguard the aviator in his solo flights.

The fuel administration is carrying on a series of conferences covering all industries which use large quantities of fuel, with a view to learning the requirements of each line during 1918. The industries themselves are playing a leading part in these discussions. The aim of the fuel administration is to arrive at a percentage of production which, under the circumstances, will be satisfactory to the manufacturers and their workmen, but which will not represent a consumption of fuel for the manufacture of supplies not needed during the current year.

The order which has been issued limiting the use of fuel for the production of window glass to 50 per cent of the amount manufactured in 1917 is the result of one of these conferences. A survey of the field indicated that while not more than 5,000,000 boxes of window glass would be used in 1918, competitive conditions were likely to result in an overmanufacture of at least 2,000,000 boxes.

It is through this system of limitation, together with large economy in the methods of using fuel, that the fuel administration expects to supplement the production of coal this year. It is hoped, as the railroads strengthen their facilities, that it will be possible to mine and transport a larger quantity of coal this year than last, but it is through these methods of reducing consumption that a repetition of this year's shortage is expected to be prevented.

Rifle and cartridge production in the United States has developed in volume and in quality on a scale assuring the satisfactory equipment of the army, according to a statement authorized by the secretary of war.

To achieve the rifle and ammunition production program the government has expended or has obligated itself to expend, during 10 months of war, \$400,000,000, and 200 officers, 80,000 men, and 10,000 women have been engaged exclusively in the manufacture of rifles and cartridges. Two government plants and three privately owned plants are engaged in making rifles and one government plant and nine privately owned plants are engaged in cartridge manufacture. Ordnance experts in this country and in Europe are in agreement that the United States army is being equipped with two of the best three rifles in the world.

"Stars and Stripes" is the name of the weekly newspaper being published in France for American troops, under the direction of the intelligence section. Practically the entire paper is devoted to American news, including a daily radio report of about 1,400 words supplied by the committee on public information to the French government.

Exports of corn to Canada for feeding and manufacturing purposes have been limited to those varieties and grades which are not suitable for seed purposes.

Divisional athletic directors who have received commissions will accompany their contingents to France, according to the war department commission on training camp activities. Boxing instructors will not be sent with the troops, as at present the need for these men is considered greater on this side.

A Swiss commercial paper states that there is a great shortage in coal of all kinds, an insufficient supply of wood for fuel, and small reserves in oils and grease throughout Switzerland. Fresh eggs have disappeared from the market. Dry vegetables are becoming more scarce. A project to manufacture flour from potatoes had to be abandoned because sufficient supplies of potatoes could not be secured.

In Holland coal and coke prices have been advanced. In American terms, the maximum price for anthracite is about \$22 a ton; coke, \$10 a ton; coal briquets, \$25 a ton. Distribution is carefully regulated by cards, it specified quantities. The amount allowed, especially to residences, is much smaller than in peace times.

New French food regulations forbid eating houses to serve of consume fresh or packed butter otherwise than in the preparation of food. Curdled or sour milk is prohibited as well as cream and specified kinds of cheese. The making of pastries, biscuits, and confectionery is prohibited. Only in dining cars, canteens and railroad refreshment stations may fresh or condensed milk or cream be served after 9 in the morning, by itself or mixed with coffee, tea, or other preparation. No solid foods may be served between 9 and 11 in the morning and between 4:30 and 8:30 in the evening. When the price of a meal exceeds \$1.20 the customer may be served with not more than two dishes with or without vegetables, or more than one small loaf of ordinary bread. The bread is limited to about 3½ ounces. All grain which may be used for making bread is reserved for human food.

At each cantonment in the United States a school has been established where every officer and man receives instruction in gas defense. The American gas mask, similar to the British, is as mechanically perfect as the best experts have been able to produce. The face piece, with glass or celluloid eyepieces, is connected by a flexible tube with a canister carried in a knapsack. The incoming breath comes, through the canister, which is filled with several layers of chemicals which neutralize or render harmless the gas-laden air. Outgoing breath passes outside the face piece through a small valve.

The student in gas defense soon learns to get his mask on in a hurry, six seconds being the standard time when the knapsack containing the mask is hanging at his chest in the "alert" position. After intensive training a gas attack is arranged. The class is put in trenches, and without warning, clouds of smoke and chlorine are liberated by the instructors, masks are hurriedly put on, alarms sounded, and sleeping men in dugouts aroused. When the attack ceases the trenches are cleared of gas, the air is tested, and permission is given to remove masks.

Describing the American Red Cross as a body authorized to do everything possible for the comfort and welfare of the soldiers, and to make use of such agencies as are authorized and are in a position to contribute to that end in addition to the provisions made by the government, a general statement by the war department outlines certain approved activities:

To distribute sweaters, mufflers, helmets, socks, comfort kits, etc.

To render emergency relief of every kind upon request of an officer in charge.

To relieve anxiety and sustain the morale of soldiers who are worried about their families at home, and to promote the comfort and well being of these families.

To conduct canteen service stations for furnishing refreshments to soldiers when traveling through the country; to furnish emergency relief to the sick and wounded when en route and to see that they are conveyed to a hospital when necessary and requested by the commanding officer.

A representative of the Red Cross may be attached to each base hospital to furnish emergency supplies when called upon, to communicate with families of patients, to render home service to patients and such other assistance as pertains to Red Cross work.

When the first Liberty motor was ready to be tested it was taken to Pike's Peak that it might be studied while running under atmospheric conditions obtaining at high altitudes. This difficulty of bringing the motor to the mountain is now overcome at the department of commerce bureau of standards at Washington, by bringing the mountain to the motor.

Alpine motors are now tested at the bureau of standards in a laboratory where various conditions corresponding to high altitudes and low temperatures are secured. The engine is placed in an air-tight concrete room, provided among other things with refrigerator coils and a large pump to reduce the pressure of the air. By use of this apparatus motors may be observed under conditions similar to those at different altitudes, which might otherwise be done only by actual airplane flights.

Plans of the American Library association include the establishment of a book and library service in army and navy hospitals in America and France.

The government is today the greatest employer of labor in the United States, not considering railroad employees. In normal times approximately 400,000 civilians are employed, and in the last year the number has increased to 600,000. In comparison one steel corporation employs 300,000 men, and one railroad 250,000.

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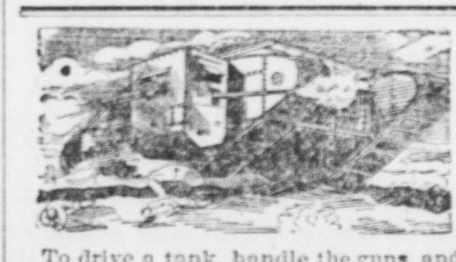
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Not Certain. "My dear, do you love me still?" "How can I tell? I've never yet seen you that way."

A volume of smoke brings tears to the eyes of every reader.



To drive a tank, handle the guns, and sweep over the enemy trenches, takes strong nerves, good rich blood, a good stomach, liver and kidneys. When the time comes, the man with red blood in his veins "is up and at it." He has iron nerves for hardships—an interest in his work grips him. That's the way you feel when you have taken a blood and nerve tonic, made up of Blood root, Golden Seal root, Stone root, Cherry bark, and rolled into a sugar-coated tablet and sold in sixty-cent vials by almost all druggists for past fifty years as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. This tonic, in liquid or tablet form, is just what you need this spring to give you vim, vigor and vitality. At the end of a hard winter, no wonder you feel "run-down," blue, out of sorts. Try this "Medical Discovery" of Dr. Pierce's. Don't wait! To-day is the day to begin! A little "pep," and you laugh and live.

The best means to oil the machinery of the body, put tone into the liver, kidneys and circulatory system, is to first practice a good house-cleaning. I know of nothing better as a laxative than a vegetable pill made up of May-apple, leaves of aloe and jalap. This is commonly sold by all druggists as Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, and should be taken at least once a week to clear the twenty-five feet of intestines. You will thus clean the system—expel the poisons and keep well. Now is the time to clean house. Give yourself a spring house cleaning.—Adv.

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