

GREAT TRIUMVIRATE NOW RULES THE KAISER'S MILITARY MACHINE

Into the Hands of Von Hindenburg, Von Mackensen and Ludendorff, Masters of War Proved in the Awful Fire of the Last Two Years, the German Emperor Has Committed the Conduct of the War—Anecdotes of the Three Chiefs.

Berlin. — Hindenburg, Mackensen, Ludendorff—these are the names to conjure with in Germany today. Into the hands of three masters of war, tried in the awful fire of the last two years, the Kaiser has committed the greatest military machine in the world and all lesser chieftains now bow down before them.

There comes a time in titanic struggles when dictators become imperative. Great leaders give way to the greatest. A Grant or a Napoleon of inexorable will curbs the mighty and fuses all the vast forces of a nation into united effort.

That is Germany's situation today. Encircled by the "iron band" of enemies the Kaiser has sacrificed even the astute Von Falkenhayn, who himself succeeded the clever Von Moltke in the early days of the war and for two years had been head of the great general staff. Now he in turn must yield place to a more splendid genius, Hindenburg.

Hindenburg is the great rock on which the formidable armies of Germany and her allies center. Ludendorff is his "alter ego," his second self, his understudy, who stands by his side watching with eagle eye ready to polish and round off his chief's plans.

Mackensen is the thunderbolt, the master of offensives, the mail-clad fist with which Hindenburg strikes. He is now in charge of the desperate situation around Rumania, where he is attempting to shock Germany's latest enemy by such a smashing blow from the south that the Rumanian attacks on other sides will weaken.

German soldiers often call Mackensen "the Archangel Michael" with a flaming sword. Teuton officers taken prisoner in Russia recently told "Petroff," the famous war correspondent of the Ruskoo Slovo, how he made a score of Austrian generals cover before him and how he burned a message from the Kaiser.

Petroff describes two war councils held by Mackensen this summer. The first took place at Kovel, 19 Austrian generals of high rank being present. "At the opening of the sitting," says Petroff, "Prince Leopold of Bavaria, especially sent by the Kaiser, handed to Von Mackensen a letter from the Kaiser. Von Mackensen rose to his feet and began to read the important document. Prince Leopold also stood up. Von Mackensen read in silence, becoming pensive, often frowning. It was evident that the letter contained numerous questions, and that Prince Leopold knew their order and character. While Von Mackensen was reading Prince Leopold was actually, as it were, counting every expression on the face of the Carpathian archangel. As he read, Von Mackensen sometimes paused to think over the question dealt with in the letter, replying with determination and resolution, 'Yes.' At other moments he uttered a resolute 'No.' Prince Leopold marked these down.

No Answer to Kaiser. "Having finished reading, Von Mackensen again became pensive, closed his eyes, and shook his head. Then he rolled the letter up and lighted it at a gas burner used for the pur-

Work in Perfect Accord. "Our emperor," answered Mackensen, "is not carrying on war merely for military glory. Neither is war being waged for gaining pieces of territory, but solely for the defense of our fatherland. You must leave it to us to decide what must and what can be done."

This would indicate that Hindenburg and Mackensen work in perfect accord at present. Of Hindenburg, who became famous early in the war by winning the two great battles in East Prussia and twice throwing back the Russian invaders, more is known than of Mackensen, and hundreds of rumors have been written about him.

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In army circles he was called "der verruckte Hinter den Burg" (the insane one behind the burg) a sportive play on his name. It is even listed the supposedly conscientious great general staff once printed behind his name in the secret army list the blue cards that denote incompetence and is the precursor of an early relegation to the despised reserve.

On one point Hindenburg was decidedly mad, and that was his study of East Prussia. In order to be free from military restriction he requested his dismissal, that he might the more conveniently study the topography of the frontier. Often he could be seen wandering lonesomely along some by-path, unsafe by reason of border marauders, a towering, masterly, brooding figure.

He devoted years to his beloved study and when his plans were completed he retired to Karlsruhe, where he wrote a little red book entitled "The Collapse," which was circulated only among the members of the war council and his few private friends. In this book he wrote:

"Our East Prussian frontier seems strong but is weak. No army can hold it. The natural boundaries are either from Danzig through Posen to Rattobor, or the present Russian fortified line, that is from Riga to Kracow. It is for you to decide."

Since then the great general staff has made known its decision. On the publication of his booklet, Hindenburg came into his own, and even the Camarilla, who hated him for his inde-

pendence, could not deny his progress. At the beginning of the war he was beaten, as he had foreseen, for he had been ordered to hold the line that was untenable. When he had been several times seriously defeated, he informed the general staff that he required no further instructions, but would fight in accordance with his own plans. It was then that he began to clear the province, and finally, by the crushing defeat at the Masurian lakes, he smashed Russia's military activity for at least twelve months.

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Hindenburg never speaks of fate or luck. He does not talk about genius, but he believes that God helped him. "God helped me to gain a victory, and the Kaiser gave me the soldiers, he made me commander, he trusted me. Be grateful to God and the Kaiser. Do not thank me. It is what he told the people of East Prussia when they came to thank and praise him as their deliverer.

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of the late King George of Greece, was destroyed when fire reduced to ashes the summer residence of his son, King Constantine. The loss of thousands of dollars spent in cultivating a flourishing pine wood, as an example of what might be done with forestry in barren Attica, have been burned-up as completely as if the hanknotes themselves had been thrown in the fire.

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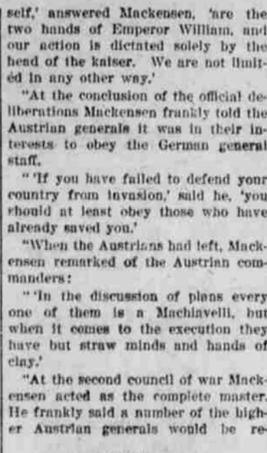
In every large community insanitary conditions exist on a considerable amount of property belonging to the city itself which is unimproved and upon land the owners of which are inaccessible or the title of which is in dispute. Thousands of cubic yards of refuse and filth were gathered and collected from vacant lots throughout the city. In many cases the lots, after being cleaned, were turned into neighborhood recreation centers, tennis courts and other places of amusement.

General Von Mackensen. moved from active service as they were not capable enough. Some of the Austrian commanders asked if there was any hope of clearing the Russians from Austrian territory, as had previously been done.

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pose of lighting cigars, holding the paper in his hand until it burnt to ashes. Then he raised his eyes to Prince Leopold, who evidently had been waiting for some statement. But Mackensen remained silent. "You did not answer the last question of the emperor," remarked the prince at last. "I did not," slowly retorted Mackensen, frowning. "It seemed that the Austrian generals present knew what the question was, because they all became anxiously attentive and regarded each other with an air of distress. At last, pausing at each syllable, the field marshal replied: "Because I am too old and because I have my reputation as a soldier, I am not going to answer anything." "All sat quiet and depressed. Prince Leopold gasped his throat as if it were difficult to breathe. One of the generals, after a pause, asked with what power the field marshal had been invested. "General von Hindenburg and my-

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IF By REV. B. B. SUTCLIFFE Extension Department, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago

Satan frequently uses an "if" to awaken doubt and God frequently uses an "if" to awaken faith. We decide which "if" we will have. So in the Scriptures there are these three—the "if" of doubt, the "if" of faith and the "if" of decision. By nature we doubt all that comes from God. Doubt expresses itself by the "if" of question, and unconscious to the believer steals away his power. Decision expresses itself in the "if" of action which deepens the conviction and destroys the doubt.

The "If" of Doubt. We are constantly tempted to doubt the Lord's Word. When Peter was told that what he thought was a spirit upon the water that stormy night was the Lord himself he said, "If it be thou—." There is the hint of doubt in that "if." The doubt lingered and took shape in Peter's mind. Translated it said to Peter, "Did I hear aright? Is it really the Lord? Was it, and is it, the Lord?" The "if" rose up and Peter went down. We step out on the stormy water and the first steps are so brave and true when suddenly the "if" rises up, and doubt of his word comes in, and we begin to sink. Again we doubt his power. The father of the demonized boy in an illustration. He brought the boy to the Lord and said, "If thou canst do anything." The poor man had "if" in the wrong place, for he was told, "If thou canst believe." As in Mark 16:27, "With God all things are possible. Not 'to' God all things are possible, that goes without saying, but 'with' God. This links man with God. The machine is a dead, idle and helpless thing until linked with the engine, when it becomes dynamic with communicated power. "If thou canst do it" "If thou canst believe." And we doubt his willingness. The cry of the leper, "If thou wilt" is still being heard. We are constantly doubting his willingness because of our condition. Constantly forgetting that "He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, with him, also freely give us all things." We hear of him healing the deaf, making the lame to walk, even raising the dead, but when it comes to our own case we get our eyes filled with our desperate condition and forget his goodness and grace. Others may be blessed, our friends may be helped, we may have his word, we may know his power, but because of our condition we are tempted to doubt, saying, "If thou wilt."

Again, we doubt his providences. When the Lord by Elisha had made food in the midst of famine to make flour cheaper than the refuse of the street, one high in authority sarcastically asked: "If the Lord would make windows in heaven, might this thing be?" It was such a new, unheard-of thing—so sudden. Is it possible he would make the grain to grow in a night? The "if" of rationalism comes in and casts doubt on the promise of God. He has promised that all our needs will be supplied, but because we do not see how he can do it we admit the doubt and find ourselves on dangerous ground.

Once more we doubt his presence. We are told he will never leave us nor forsake us, but in spite of that, when circumstances which hurt and distress surround us, we are tempted. Like Gideon of old to say, "If the Lord be with us why then is all this befallen us?" He knows all the why of our circumstances. He saw them on the way long before we met them. He tried and tested everyone of them before ever we thought of them. But the moment the road grows a bit rough and things seem to go a bit wrong the old doubting "if" rises up and we question whether he really is with us. He has not promised rosy paths for every day, the chastening and the discipline will be there, but never any reason really for asking, "If the Lord be with us why has this befallen us?" But the way of doubt is natural. The putting an "if" to his word, his power, his willingness, presence, everything, indeed, connected with the Lord we are tempted to doubt.

The "If" of Faith. In Romans 8:21 is written "What shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" The very next verse tells how we may know that God is for us. "He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" If he gave the greater he will give the less. If he gave his Son would he not give all things? If he has given Christ he will withhold no good things. How this "if" should awaken our faith in his word, his willingness, his power, etc.

The "If" of Decision. This is found in Elijah's exhortation to Israel, "If the Lord be God follow him, but if Baal followed him." Israel must make a decision between them. We, too, must decide between Satan's "if" of doubt and the Lord's "if" of faith. We have a glimpse of what it means in the Apostle Paul. He counted the cost, faced the toll and hardship, saw the dark road ahead of him, but looked also at the presence and power of the Lord, and, assuring his heart that God was with him and for him, made the decision. May it be ours to meet the "if" of decision and say:

Then into his hand went mine And into my heart went he And I walked in a light divine The path where I feared to be.

Constant Reader. "Higgins is a pessimist, isn't he?" "Yes. He's so fond of bad news that he goes down cellar every morning to read the gas and electric meters."

Dr. Peery's "DEAD SHOT" is an effective medicine for Worms or Tapeworms in adults or children. One dose is sufficient and no supplemental purge necessary.—Adv.

An Eye to Business. "This play is the worst ever. I am going to demand my money back." "Wait until after the next act, old man. Ten years elapse between acts 1 and 3, and you can demand interest on your money for that length of time."

MOTHER'S JOY SALVE for Colds, Croup, Pneumonia and Asthma; GOOSE GREASE LINIMENT for Neuralgia, Rheumatism and Sprains. For sale by all Druggists. GOOSE GREASE COMPANY, MFR'S, Greensboro, N. C.—Adv.

Wrong Time 'O' Year. "That fellow seems excited about something." "Yes. He was born in Kansas and this is the first time he has ever seen the ocean."

At a Deadweight. "Have any trouble with your summer boarders this year?" "No," answered Mr. Cobbles. "That is, none worth mentioning." There was a lady schoolteacher staying with us who didn't seem to think much of my grammar, but as I wasn't charging nothing for my grammar, she couldn't come right out and make no regular complaint."

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of J. C. FLETCHER. In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Obliging. Mrs. Simmons was rather taken aback by learning that her new domestic's name was the same as her own daughter's. "Your name, Katherine, and my daughter's being the same makes matters somewhat confusing," said Mrs. Simmons. "Suppose we change it?" "Oh don't mind, mum," replied the girl. "That's very nice," said the mistress. "How do you like, say, the name of Bridget?" "Well, mum," returned the domestic, "it's not meself that's over particular. O'm willing to call the young lady any name ye'd suggest, mum."

Money-Making Scheme. "You say you'd like to own a bat-deship?" "Yes." "That's a curious wish. What would you do with it?" "I'd anchor it off Newport and lense it to fashionable folk for dances."

China has a yearly tree-planting day.

WINCHESTER

"LEADER" AND "REPEATER" SHOT SHELLS For the high flyers, or the low flyers, "Leader" and "Repeater" shells have the reach, spread and penetration. Their great sale is due to these qualities, which insure a full bag. Made in many gauges and loads. BE SURE TO ASK FOR THE W BRAND

W. L. DOUGLAS "THE SHOE THAT HOLDS ITS SHAPE" \$3.00 \$3.50 \$4.00 \$4.50 & \$5.00 FOR MEN AND WOMEN Save Money by Wearing W. L. Douglas shoes. For sale by over 9000 shoe dealers. The Best Known Shoes in the World. W. L. Douglas name and the retail price is stamped on the bottom.

W. L. Douglas shoes are guaranteed by more than 40 years experience in making fine shoes. The smart styles are the Fashion Shoes of America. They are made in a well-equipped factory at Brockton, Mass., by the highest paid, skilled shoemakers, under the direction and supervision of experienced men, all working with an honest determination to make the best shoes for the price that money can buy.

Ask your shoe dealer for W. L. Douglas shoes. If he cannot supply you with the kind you want, take no other make. Write for interesting booklet explaining how to get shoes of the highest standard of quality for the price, by return mail, postage free.

LOOK FOR W. L. Douglas name and the retail price stamped on the bottom. W. L. Douglas Shoe Co., Brockton, Mass.

W. L. DOUGLAS "THE SHOE THAT HOLDS ITS SHAPE" \$3.00 \$3.50 \$4.00 \$4.50 & \$5.00 FOR MEN AND WOMEN Save Money by Wearing W. L. Douglas shoes. For sale by over 9000 shoe dealers. The Best Known Shoes in the World. W. L. Douglas name and the retail price is stamped on the bottom.

W. L. Douglas shoes are guaranteed by more than 40 years experience in making fine shoes. The smart styles are the Fashion Shoes of America. They are made in a well-equipped factory at Brockton, Mass., by the highest paid, skilled shoemakers, under the direction and supervision of experienced men, all working with an honest determination to make the best shoes for the price that money can buy.

Ask your shoe dealer for W. L. Douglas shoes. If he cannot supply you with the kind you want, take no other make. Write for interesting booklet explaining how to get shoes of the highest standard of quality for the price, by return mail, postage free.

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Constant Reader. "Higgins is a pessimist, isn't he?" "Yes. He's so fond of bad news that he goes down cellar every morning to read the gas and electric meters."

Dr. Peery's "DEAD SHOT" is an effective medicine for Worms or Tapeworms in adults or children. One dose is sufficient and no supplemental purge necessary.—Adv.

An Eye to Business. "This play is the worst ever. I am going to demand my money back." "Wait until after the next act, old man. Ten years elapse between acts 1 and 3, and you can demand interest on your money for that length of time."

MOTHER'S JOY SALVE for Colds, Croup, Pneumonia and Asthma; GOOSE GREASE LINIMENT for Neuralgia, Rheumatism and Sprains. For sale by all Druggists. GOOSE GREASE COMPANY, MFR'S, Greensboro, N. C.—Adv.

Wrong Time 'O' Year. "That fellow seems excited about something." "Yes. He was born in Kansas and this is the first time he has ever seen the ocean."

At a Deadweight. "Have any trouble with your summer boarders this year?" "No," answered Mr. Cobbles. "That is, none worth mentioning." There was a lady schoolteacher staying with us who didn't seem to think much of my grammar, but as I wasn't charging nothing for my grammar, she couldn't come right out and make no regular complaint."

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of J. C. FLETCHER. In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Obliging. Mrs. Simmons was rather taken aback by learning that her new domestic's name was the same as her own daughter's. "Your name, Katherine, and my daughter's being the same makes matters somewhat confusing," said Mrs. Simmons. "Suppose we change it?" "Oh don't mind, mum," replied the girl. "That's very nice," said the mistress. "How do you like, say, the name of Bridget?" "Well, mum," returned the domestic, "it's not meself that's over particular. O'm willing to call the young lady any name ye'd suggest, mum."

Money-Making Scheme. "You say you'd like to own a bat-deship?" "Yes." "That's a curious wish. What would you do with it?" "I'd anchor it off Newport and lense it to fashionable folk for dances."

China has a yearly tree-planting day.