

Week's War News

London, Oct. 14—Seventeen German steamers which ply in Baltic Sea are missing, according to a Uterholm despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, and are believed to have been sunk by British submarines.

Petrograd, Oct. 14—Russian general staff circles estimate that about three Teuton army divisions, 120,000 men, were shattered by the Russian success on the Tiryga in Eastern Galicia. The army which suffered this blow is under General Von Linsingen, and includes German and Austrian corps.

Paris, Oct. 14—Private advice is to the effect that the Bulgarian division was almost annihilated in a fierce battle near Kraguevatz, Serbia, says a despatch to the Havas Agency from Bucharest, dated Tuesday, and delayed in transmission.

Paris, Oct. 14—Enough optimistic French military experts today did not endorse the opinion expressed in some quarters that Germany is preparing for a retreat on the western front, in the face of the Allies' drive, they said it was natural for Germans to make advance arrangements with a view to the possible retreat that might become necessary. They did not think it safe to conclude that the Kaiser believed that would be the case.

RUSSIA'S LESSON AS A RESULT OF WAR

A Huge Nation Without Industries—How Would Canada Fare Under Similar Conditions?

"Country Life in Canada" of Winnipeg had a very interesting article in a recent issue entitled, "Nations, With and Without Industries." Russia was taken as a typical example of the nation without manufacturing development. The article calls attention to Russia's position when war was declared. Russia found herself cut off from the rest of Europe and America in great measure as far as supplies of manufactured goods were concerned. Russia could not export her vast stores of food products, nor secure in change for them manufactured goods, many of which were essential to the successful conduct of the war.

Result of Russia's Isolation
Food remained cheap, but imported commodities became dear. The importation of manufactured goods ceased; stock in stores grew less and less; imported commodities became dearer and dearer. Germany before the war, exported to Russia immense quantities of machinery, utensils, and chemically prepared materials. Nearly all drugs came from Germany, so a drug famine existed in Russia. Boots made in Vienna, and hats and costumes from Paris disappeared. Russian society ladies—among the best dressed in Europe—have been, and will be, without fashions. In this regard the upper and middle classes of Russia feel the pinch of war, because luxuries are abolished. The poor, however, had only a demand for food—and food was both plentiful and cheap. The peasant-farmer was better off, especially since he no longer could waste what money he had on vodka and beer. Economy and sobriety conserve the wealth of nations.

Russian General's Views
A Russian general stood with his staff on a hill in Poland. The Russians were fighting one of their dogged rear-guard actions, falling back on a line of new defences. Impotently the soldier raised his hand and shook it at the advancing German horde. "Oh, for the machine shops of other lands," cried he, "for their looms and factories. Then we'd fire shell for shell, and our soldiers would have an equipment to face the best in the world!"

If Canada Were Embattled
What if Canada had enemies on her southern frontier, and part of the prairie provinces in their hands. To the north, the un navigable Arctic; on the west the Pacific Coast blockaded by enemy warships. Halifax being bombarded, enemy troops over-running Nova Scotia, and warships smashing their way up the St. Lawrence. It is not a pretty picture, and, but for the grace of God and the British Empire, we might be today as Russia is.

Could Canada take care of herself in an economic sense? We know that Russia has cheaper food as a result of the war, but even now Canada imports eggs, butter and other produce that now glut the home market in Russia. What would it avail us if our wheat was held in storage as is Russia's in her Black Sea ports? Yet, in other ways, Canada is infinitely better prepared as a self-supporting country than is Russia. In ratio to population our factory production swamps that of Russia. We even produce the luxuries the upper classes of Russia lack owing to the

Proposed Civic Improvement Organization For Canada

Proposal for National Movement to Secure Effective Interest in Municipal Affairs, and Advancement of Principles of Civic Improvement and Growth

The following appearing in the October issue of Conservation of Life, should be of much interest to the members of the Newcastle Town Improvement League, and to the citizens of the town in general:

"At the International Town Planning Conference held in Toronto in May, 1914, the Canadian delegates met and passed the following resolution:

"That this representative gathering of Canadian delegates at the International City Planning Congress held in the Convocation Hall of Toronto University on Wednesday, May 17th, 1914, desires strongly to pray the Commission of Conservation in view of the very practical co-operation and interest in the aims and objects of the present International City Planning Conference, and to further its work by the creation of a special Bureau of City Planning and Housing in connection with the activities of the Commission of Conservation, to act as a Central Body to encourage and co-operate with provincial or other housing and town planning bodies."

Partly in consequence of the appeal contained in this resolution the Commission of Conservation has formed a Town Planning Branch, and has appointed a Town Planning Adviser. The branch is engaged in framing draft town planning and housing legislation, in advising cities, towns and villages regarding the planning and improvement of their areas, and in educating public opinion. It is felt, however, that the work of the Commission will not meet with an adequate measure of success unless there is a more widespread interest in municipal matters on the part of the general body of citizens. An organization is required to stimulate public interest in municipal affairs, with special regard to public health, town planning and housing, and to encourage the study and advancement of the best principles of civic improvement and growth.

A proposal has therefore been made that Civic Improvement Leagues should be formed in each city, town and municipality in Canada, that these leagues should together form federations in each province, and that these federations should unite in a Dominion Conference on Civic Affairs at suitable intervals. Where Boards of Trade have Civic Improvement Committees, or other bodies are in existence which deal with certain aspects of city or village improvement, it might not be necessary, or even desirable, to form a new league but merely to attach the existing body to the provincial federation. Civic Improvement and Housing Committees of Local Councils of Women would also be welcomed as local units in the organization.

The scope and form of constitution of the proposed organization have not yet been agreed but a draft scheme has been prepared and will be submitted to a representative conference to be held in January, 1916, during the annual meeting of the Commission of Conservation. Existing Civic Improvement Leagues and other bodies which have been formed for the purpose of promoting public health, town planning, housing and associated movements are being invited to take part in a preliminary conference to be held in November next.

Many of the existing bodies are working without knowledge of each other's operations and are unable to get the benefit to be derived from co-operation with each other. A frequent exchange of views would be of great value. In regard to all civic questions there is much need for education in Canada. There have been many interesting developments in recent years that require to be carefully studied. Experience in regard to town planning particularly is so new that it is of the utmost importance that the lessons to be derived from it should be fully discussed and erroneous ideas removed.

The time is considered opportune for a Dominion-wide movement in connection with these matters. The fact that the Empire is engaged in war is an added reason for considering how we can build up and conserve our national resources by reducing wasteful municipal expenditures, improving housing conditions, raising the standard of public health, obtaining better means of transportation, reducing unemployment and generally planning our towns, cities, and municipalities so as to secure health, economy and convenience.

Queen Victoria's Doll—When Queen Victoria was a little girl she dearly loved dolls. She had 132 in all—dancing girls, lords and ladies, babies and maids. Each one dressed in garments that fitted his or her place in life. Victoria made the garments of 32 of these dolls her very own self. Such fine stitches as she took, too. Dainty pocket handkerchiefs, a half-inch square, she embroidered with initials, and drew the threads in the borders; silk and satin robes with long, graceful trains; caps and bonnets in the fashion of the day. Most wonderful of all was the way she finished off the tiny pockets on the tiniest of aprons. Many of these dolls are still preserved in the museum, where you may see them when you go to London.



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with special regard to such questions as the following:

(1) The form and character of local government and the application of sound economic principles in regard to the administration of municipal business.

(2) The preparation of town planning schemes for the purpose of securing proper sanitary conditions, convenience and amenity in connection with the development of land within and surrounding the area of the city.

(3) The replanning of old districts, the removal of slum areas, the widening of public thoroughfares, and other reconstruction schemes.

(4) The conservation of the industrial and physical resources of the city, with special regard to the housing condition and health of its citizens and the adequacy and efficiency of its public services.

(5) The preservation and increase of natural and structural beauty, the character and position of public monuments, the laying out of parks and open spaces, the planting and preservation of trees, the regulation of public advertising, and the abatement of smoke and other nuisances.

(6) The preparation of civic surveys and maps, and the carrying out of investigations into housing, transportation and industrial conditions, methods of land valuation and assessment, etc.

(7) The promotion of school and college courses in civics and civic design, of exhibitions of works of art and architectural, engineering and other designs relating to civic improvements, and of public performances of music; and the provision of facilities for the recreation and physical development of the young.

(8) The means of securing increased production from the soil within and in the neighbourhood of the city by encouraging the cultivation of idle suburban land and a more widespread interest in gardening.

The need for improvement leagues or associations is greater in some villages than in many towns. With a view to showing what work might be undertaken by a village improvement association a separate article in this bulletin describes the work of a successful New England association.

The above objects suggest the nature of the work to be undertaken. This, however, would differ according to the different conditions and different laws of each province and locality. For instance, in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Alberta there will be no need to consider the details of town planning legislation as Acts are already in force. In these three Provinces, therefore, the work of leagues or committees will probably be directed, so far as town planning is concerned, to encouraging the application of the existing legislation and to considering the details of schemes and their administration. In other provinces a large part of the work for a time will have to be in the direction of promoting legislation without which no effective town planning can be secured. Similar differences exist regarding other matters but a more extended statement of a suggested program of work for each province may be left over for the present.

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(Hartford, Ark., Observer)
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who desire to assist in promoting the proposed organization to communicate with the Town Planning Adviser of the Commission of Conservation by letter or on the card enclosed in this bulletin.

(Following here is a list of existing leagues, commissions and

committees, but as our Town Improvement League does not appear to be affiliated with them, would it not be desirable to get in touch with the Town Planning Adviser of the Commission of Conservation, and thereby bring Newcastle in closer touch with the larger towns and cities of the Dominion?—Ed.

Let's wife at least earned her salt. Loud attire naturally speaks for itself.

Never lend money to a man who has a poor memory.

Anyway George Washington didn't use his little hammer.

Laugh at a fool and he imagines you are laughing with him.

Blessed is the peacemaker if he keeps at a safe distance.

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