

# The Semi-Weekly Telegraph

and The News

VOL. LIV.

ST. JOHN, N. E., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1915

NO 41

## BALKAN BREAK LIKELY TO COME SUDDENLY IS BELIEF OF MILITARY OBSERVERS; NEW AUSTRO-GERMAN MOVE

### Sudden Stiffening of Austrian Front to Check Russians

#### Recent Despatches from Petrograd Refer Specially to Austro-German Offensive

Russian Movements Near East and West Prussian Frontiers, However, Are Worrying the Enemy—Little of Importance Reported in Western War Theatre—The Balkan Situation is Becoming More Interesting.

London, Jan. 25, 9:55 p. m.—The sudden stiffening of the Austrian front in the eleventh hour to check the Russian invasion of Hungary, as a natural sequence of the occupation of Bukovina, seems for the present to be the event of chief military importance. The Russians seem to recognize this, and all recent despatches from Petrograd have emphasized the Austro-German offensive in the southeastern theatre.

Second in importance, perhaps, are the Russian movements near the east and west Prussian frontiers—movements of which the German statement received by wireless today, takes cognizance, at the same time insisting that no new advances into German territory are now feared.

In the western theatre there has been so little change that the British newspapers print the official communications with scant comment, preferring to feature Sunday's naval action. The facts concerning this engagement are not as detailed as might be desired, and the admiral up to tonight has added nothing to the original announcement.

With great battles soon to be fought out at their front doors, Russians has not yet decided to join in the conflict, but it is patent that the situation in the Balkans is smoldering, and it is believed that action will come suddenly. The Italian, Greek and Bulgarian ministers were among the callers at the foreign office today.

The Swedish press is showing renewed irritation against the British counter-bank policy and some of the Stockholm papers suggest reprisals in the way of forbidding the transportation of goods destined for Great Britain over Swedish railways. One paper says that the country should strengthen her defences by means of which she would be able to command respect for her neutrality.

One of the chief tasks of the new Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, the despatch credits Count Andrássy with saying, will be to give the neutral countries a better understanding of the Austro-Hungarian foreign policy, and gain their approval of it.

Stockholm, via London, Jan. 25, 9:10 p. m.—The influential Liberal newspaper Tidningen, says today that the main object of the Swedes should not be to seek to profit by the difficulties of the great powers, but to strengthen their defences, thereby assuring respect of Sweden's neutrality by other governments and securing peace within her own boundaries.

London, Jan. 25, 9:05 p. m.—A Union lawyer representing Armour & Company, and all the other Chicago packing concerns which are interested in cargoes of foodstuffs detained in British ports conferred today with the foreign office and admiralty officials concerning the supplies on the steamers Alfred Nobel, Prilland, Sit and Bjornstren, which have been held for a prize court.

These vessels carry lard, bacon, oil and oleomargarine, which was shipped to Copenhagen "by order" before the British order was issued against further shipments of foodstuffs which were not definitely consigned to some individual or firm. It is generally believed that the British government will buy the four cargoes in dispute, and thus settle the controversy.

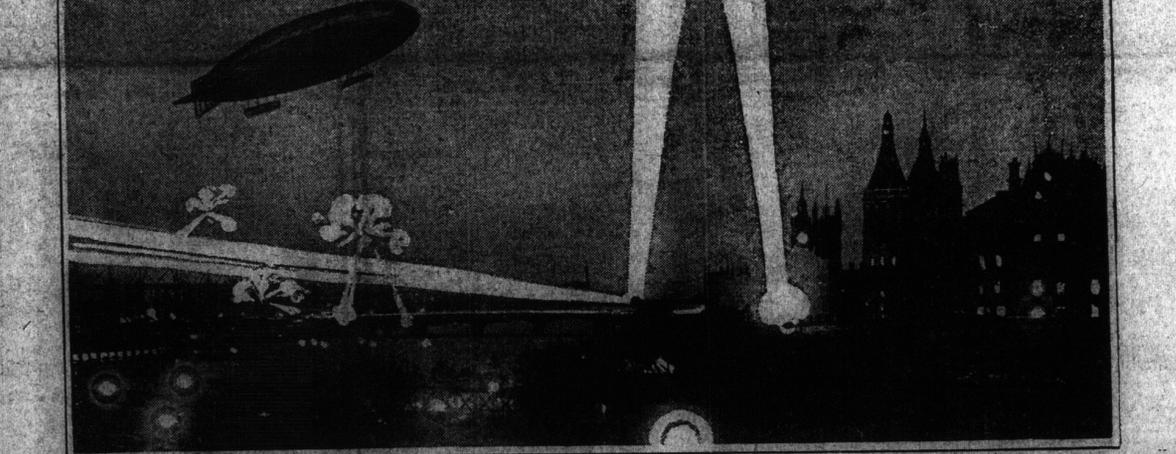
Under cover of the rising ground, while the French were firing from the woods on either side, the car was stopped. The correspondents went to the trenches on the edge of the wood, but the German guns did not think them worth a shell. "They are different this afternoon," said one soldier.

There were glimpses to be had of the Alpine troops, sturdy mountaineers, at home in this mountain world. Whether in the front line trenches or in reserve, the spirit of the men was the same. All were bearded and warmly clothed, cheerily referring to themselves "as pollus."

London, Jan. 25.—The latest supplement of the London Gazette shows that seventy-seven officers have been appointed from the ranks to commissions in the British army because of efficiency in the field. Most of them were advanced from the sergeant grade and the regimental non-commissioned staff, but some were more corporals. These men had taken conspicuous part in the fighting in the field when the officers were lost, and otherwise showed themselves worthy of second lieutenant ranks.

Vienna Reports Little. Vienna, via Amsterdam, to London, Jan. 25, 11:35 p. m.—The following official communication was issued tonight: "In Poland and Galicia no important engagements have occurred, except on the Nida, where there was a violent artillery fight. The Russian attacks with the purpose of re-capturing the positions taken by us in the Upper Ung Valley and near Vesconoval were repulsed with heavy losses. In the battles during the last two days in the Carpathians we have taken one thousand prisoners."

### London Prepared and Waiting for Zeppelin Attack



If the German Zeppelins attack London, and they are almost sure to do so, they will get a warm reception. The lower portion of this picture is taken from a real photograph of London as it is now, with searchlights and cannon awaiting the German air invasion. Powerful searchlights pierce the sky each night in a frenzied effort to locate a possible invader. The Zeppelin shown above is drawn according to the artist's ideas of how the engine of death would approach London—probably with the parliament house (shown in the picture) as its objective.

### GERMAN GOVERNMENT SEIZES ALL STOCKS OF WHEAT IN THE COUNTRY

Berlin, via Amsterdam, to London, Jan. 26, 2:15 a. m.—All stocks of wheat have been seized by the German government, according to the official statement in order to safeguard the bread supply until the next harvest. This measure, it is said, was made necessary by the fact that the people have failed to economize. The stocks will be distributed according to the population of the various communities.

### COULD DRIVE GERMANS BACK IF THEY WANTED TO

French Staff Officer Explains Why the Allies Are Content to Wait Till the Proper Time Comes—Correspondent Tells of the Great Damage Done in Lorraine.

Nancy, Jan. 25, via Paris, Jan. 25.—"We could drive the Germans back here if we chose to attack in force," said a staff officer who accompanied the correspondents on tour of the positions held by the French in Lorraine. "But there would be no object in doing this. We should have to retreat unless advances were made at certain other points along our line. Every thousand yard trench is linked up with another, and each division front with the others."

At that time the members of the party were looking out from the positions among the ridges of the Vosges across the old frontier, which the French had swept over in their invasion of Lorraine and the Germans in their invasion of Eastern France. The reserve trenches quartered in the villages near the front were busy excavating new trenches to stay any German attack in force. "It gives the men exercise," said the officer, "and sometimes the Germans drop in shells and interrupt the work for a while. We will go on now to where we may get a shell ourselves."

Under cover of the rising ground, while the French were firing from the woods on either side, the car was stopped. The correspondents went to the trenches on the edge of the wood, but the German guns did not think them worth a shell. "They are different this afternoon," said one soldier.

There were glimpses to be had of the Alpine troops, sturdy mountaineers, at home in this mountain world. Whether in the front line trenches or in reserve, the spirit of the men was the same. All were bearded and warmly clothed, cheerily referring to themselves "as pollus."

London, Jan. 25, 8:20 p. m.—The official press bureau tonight gave out the following message received by the Admiralty from Field Marshal Sir John French: "The army in France hope that you and our naval comrades will accept our congratulations on the victory of the British fleet in the North Sea. Convoy to Vice-Admiral Beatty, and Commodore Tyrwhitt and their officers and men our admiration and good wishes."

Transvaal's Gold Output Less. Johannesburg, Africa, Jan. 25.—The Transvaal's output of gold for 1914 shows a total of \$15,000,000, below the record of 1913. The year's production was \$178,000,000, valued at \$178,000,000.

Paris, Jan. 25, 10:45 p. m.—The following official communication was issued tonight: "There is nothing to report."

### USING THE DACIA TO MAKE TROUBLE BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE STATES

Paris Paper Believes This Attempt of the Germans Will Prove Futile—Praises Senator Lodge for His Stand for Justice—The Dacia "Delayed" Again.

Paris, Jan. 25, 5:50 p. m.—The Temps, in its leading editorial, discussing the Dacia incident, says: "The Germans have thought to put Anglo-American relations to a new test. They have attached to their protests regarding maritime contraband the Dacia affair, with the double purpose of furnishing additional support to those who in the United States are leading the campaign against England in the name of American commerce and saving their merchant vessels which have taken refuge in trans-Atlantic ports."

They seek at the same time, by this desperate effort, to guard against the effects of the blockade which is stopping the provisioning of Germany. "Senator Lodge's view will meet with the approbation of a great majority on the other side who favor the triumph of justice. Special interests always have been powerless to stifle right in that way. One can believe futile all the mischievous efforts to stir up John Bull and Uncle Sam by family quarrels."

Galveston, Texas, Jan. 25.—"A package of important papers," mailed from New York Friday afternoon, is delaying the departure of the Dacia, the captain and the agent of the steamship said tonight. The papers, it was said, should arrive in Galveston Tuesday and the Dacia will then begin her voyage to Rotterdam, carrying 11,000 bales of cotton. The papers are said to be the record of the ship's transfer from German to American ownership.

### GERMAN CHANCELLOR'S DESPERATE ATTEMPTS TO EXPLAIN THEIR CRIME

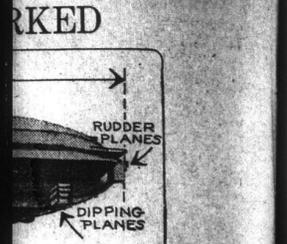
Berlin, Jan. 25, via London.—In the future no one will be deceived by England's magnanimous appeals in the name of civilization and humanity, said Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor, after reviewing the methods of warfare which he said had been adopted by Great Britain and her Allies.

The chancellor's statement was made to a representative of the Associated Press at the German field headquarters in a town in northern France. The chancellor and the foreign minister, Gottlieb Von Jagow, were seen in a village which serves the office and dwelling for themselves and for the members of the diplomatic suite accompanying the Emperor William.

The correspondent sought to obtain the views of the chancellor and foreign minister on Anglo-American relations, reference to British interference with American shipping. No official information had been received concerning the reply of the British to the discussion of the Dacia incident in detail.

One section of the note, as given in newspaper despatches, made a particular impression, however, on the chancellor. Britain declared that she had been acting on the principle that foodstuffs were conditional contraband and that England had not interfered with shipments of foodstuffs not intended for the armed forces of an enemy or for a hostile government. In this connection, the chancellor pointed out that no shipments of grain or other provisions had reached Germany from America during the war.

The chancellor then made the following statement: "I shall not comment on the British note of Jan. 7, as far as facts and questions concerning trade are concerned. Sir Edward Grey, however considered it appropriate to add two statements intended to carry weight far beyond the scope of this particular interchange of notes. I mean the paragraph wherein he speaks of leaving open the question of permitting shipments of food supplies not intended for the enemy's armies or government, and his slur upon us, stating that we had abandoned the rules of civilization and humanity. "Britain! Britain! "It should not be forgotten that in this war Great Britain set out to starve over 85,000,000 people directly, by cutting their food, indirectly, by closing the arteries of their commerce. "In attempting this she did not refrain from destroying a considerable part of the trade of neutral nations. Now it is beginning to dawn on Great Britain that a precedent whereon England may some day fall back, when she may have ceased to hold the whip hand of control of the maritime avenues of supply. It will be well therefore to remember with what brutal means England tried to throttle us. In the course of the interview, the German chancellor again reiterated the old charge that the Allies were using dum-dum bullets."



### RUSSIA HERSELF AGAIN, HE SAYS

She Has a Great Life Before Her, Says Writer—Fighting for Herself.

(By Stephen Graham in Collier's.) One of the commonest headlines in Russian papers is "Holy War." A war it is going to have any success in Russia, must be a holy war. The Crimean war was a holy war to protect the Russian pilgrims from the persecutions of the Turks. The Japanese war never succeeded in getting thought holy—that was why it failed so disastrously. This war is holy to everyone, and its motto is, getting rid of the German spirit in life, getting rid of the sheer materialistic point of view, getting rid of brutality and the lack of understanding of others.

The great spiritual power of the war has worked miracles in the social life of the people. It reminds me of the crisis in the drama of Peer Gynt. You remember when the button molder came and said to Peer that his day was done and that it must be put into the molting pot and recast as some one else. Peer searched in his history and in his life for something that could redeem him. Only in the peasant girl Solveig did he find refuge from the molder. So with Russia—to her also the button molder has come and offered to melt her up with a strong alloy of Germany into something new. She must go to her peasants if she wishes to remain herself. In the hour of distress it is our peasants who will save us. For Russia, above all things, is fighting that she may go on being herself.

Everyone who loves Russia believes in her personal destiny. She is the youngest of the nations; she has a great life before her. She fights, and as she fights the year grows colder and more bitter. Commissaries have visited Moscow, buying heavy overcoats for the army for the winter, and we know that the war becomes heavier gloomier.

Yet now and again we spare a glance beyond winter and ask what it will be like when the foe is beaten. Will not Russia emerge greater than before—the true mother of the Slav races? Will not the Eastern Church remain unshaken, sure of its faith, the heritage of early Christian tradition and its present-day spiritual strength?

### QUEENS COUNTY PATRIOTIC FUNDS

Gagetown, Jan. 20.—Further contributions to the Queens county patriotic funds include the following: Queenstown, for Belgian Fund, S. L. Peters, \$5; T. H. Scovil, \$2; L. Carpenter, \$2; W. Cecil Peters, \$2; Bentley E. Peters, \$2; Edwin C. Peters, \$2; Lewis Preston, \$2; Jeremiah Davis, \$2; Mrs. M. Reddon, \$1; W. E. Reddon, \$1; Mrs. J. B. Elder, \$1; Rev. C. B. Lewis, \$5. Total, \$38.50.

Queenstown, for Red Cross Society, Mrs. S. L. Peters, \$2; Mrs. Thomas T. H. Scovil, \$2; Miss Charlotte A. Scovil, \$1. Total, \$5.

Queenstown, for Patriotic Fund, H. W. Scovil, \$2; E. B. Scovil, \$2; Walter H. Scovil, \$2. Total, \$6. Collector, T. H. Scovil.

New Jerusalem for Patriotic Fund, Mrs. W. Teed Inch, Rev. L. J. Wason, Robert H. Barnett, Mrs. E. T. Vallis, W. Samuel Beckett, John Dunn, David Smith, E. D. Vallis, William Douglas, Ethel Beckett, John Smith, each \$2; William Vallis, \$5; Mrs. Robert Seiffidge, \$5. Total, \$12.50. Collector, Samuel Beckett.

Hamilton Mountain, for Belgian Fund, Mrs. and Mrs. McCutcheon, \$1; Mr. and Mrs. E. Sterritt, \$1; M. P. Ralph McCortack, \$1; Lettie Murphy, \$2; Thos. Lafferty, \$2; Erwin Hamilton, \$2; Benjamin Sterritt, \$2; Joseph Sterritt, \$2; Andrew R. Hamilton, \$2; Alfred Hamilton, \$2; Miss Mary Sterritt, \$2; G. A. Derrah, \$2; Mrs. W. J. Sterritt, \$2; Priscilla V. Sterritt, \$2; Mrs. Bannister, \$2; Mrs. Swain, \$2; Mrs. Sterritt, \$2; total, \$8.25; collector, Rev. Mr. Harvey.

Total of above amounts, Belgian fund, \$32.45; Red Cross Society, \$6; Patriotic Fund, \$6; full total, \$64.45.

Colder weather has set in and danger of a freshet is said to have been averted. Reports from up river indicate that the water has drained off the ice. The total rainfall registered here was 9.29 inches. Westerly winds and a decidedly lower temperature are the weather probabilities for today, and a cold snap is expected before the weekend. Several washouts are reported from outside points, and the temporary bridge at Great Salmon river is said to have been injured. Damage was done to the breakwater at St. Martins. The water has risen to an abnormal height for this season at Fredericton and the Nashwaak is reported clear of ice.