

THE WAR ON THE EASTERN FRONT

SUMMARY OF 1917 EVENTS IN RUSSIA.

Disaster Which Has Overtaken Russia Also Forces Rumanians Out of the War.

The see-saw of victory and defeat in Russia ended on March 12, when the revolution broke. Mutterings in the army, which had led to successive Russian defeats and open hints of "dark forces" controlling the Czar's government, caused Nicholas to order the dissolution of the Duma. Its members resisted, imprisoned the Czar and formed a provisional government with Prince Lvoff and Professor Milukoff at its head and endeavored to stem the tide of disaster.

Alexander F. Kerensky, Minister of War, a radical socialist but not a Maximalist, succeeded in making a temporary diversion. On July 1 he went to the southwestern front, placed himself at the head of the Russian troops and began a new drive on Lemberg.

On Sept. 1 the Germans began an offensive on the Riga front, crossing the Dvina at Uskull. Part of the Russian troops withdrew, refusing to fight, and the Germans entered Riga on Sept. 3. They gradually extended their positions, capturing Jacobstadt on Sept. 21 and crossing the Livonian River An, thus holding a small triangle between the Dvina and the Gulf of Riga.

Russia's Collapse.

Kerensky on Sept. 15 proclaimed the establishment of a republic in Russia, and a month later, as a sop to the extremists, formed a coalition government, announcing the purpose of making peace in connection with all the other allies. This was seized upon by the Germans as an entering wedge. Kerensky, a notorious anarchist, was sent back to Russia by Germany for the purpose of stirring up trouble, and there met Leon Trotsky, a visionary writer, who had gone to Petrograd with the idea of putting his anarchical theories into practice. They rapidly brought matters to a crisis. Kerensky's weakness in allowing discontent to spread in the army caused another revolution in Petrograd. Kerensky was deposed and Lenin assumed the premiership, with Trotsky as foreign minister.

Then they proposed a general peace, without annexations or indemnities, and began negotiations with the central powers for an armistice. This was signed at Brest-Litovsk on Dec. 15, effective two days later. It is to last twenty-eight days, ending on Jan. 14, 1918, at noon. Trotsky next proposed "a general peace" and began negotiations with Germany for a separate peace. Thus Russia passes out of the war unless and until the bolshevik government is overthrown.

Russia's collapse automatically forces Rumanians out of the war. Isolated from all help, she was obliged to join in the bolshevik armistice.

ARTIFICIAL EYES.

Represent the Highest Development of Glassblowers' Skill.

The war is making an extraordinary demand for glass eyes—so many are the fighting men who lose one or both of their own eyes at the front.

When a man is totally blinded he usually lets it go at that; but if one eye be lost he gets an artificial one, to avoid disfigurement.

We in this country do not know how to make artificial eyes. It is really a fine art, and may be said to represent the highest development of the glassblowers' skill.

The beginning of an artificial eye is a small glass tube with a bulb in the middle. One end is cut off, and the opening sealed with the blowpipe, leaving a hollow bulb on the end of a tube.

The workman, of course, can enlarge the bulb as he pleases by blowing into the tube. This he does gradually and at intervals, while applying melted glass of different colors to the extremity of the bulb.

First he puts on a circular spot of blue or brown for the iris, and in the center adds a black dot for the pupil. By artistic manipulation he counterfeits the delicate effects of coloration observed in the human eye.

The process cannot be more definitely described because it is art work, and not merely a mechanical performance. A special glass is added to imitate the peculiar whittish opacity of the white part of the eye, and even the little red veins in the latter are reproduced.

During these processes the bulb and tube are kept hot and soft. Finally the front half of the bulb is cut off with sharp scissors, and this half is the all-but-finished eye, requiring only to have its edges made smooth.

Most glass eyes are made in Germany, and they cost only about \$5 apiece. This source of supply has been cut off by the war. But the finest artificial eyes are of French manufacture, and are of porcelain. The process of making them is secret, and the price is anywhere from \$15 to \$50.

Any cold cereal can be put into the mush pot when making corn meal mush.

ANZAC EXPLOITS IN TURK'S LAND

CAVALRY PLAYED GREAT PART IN EASTERN WARFARE.

Australian Light Horse Had Many Thrilling Adventures Like Cavaliers of Old.

The Australian forces at the beginning of the war were chiefly mounted, for the Anzacs are born riders. Of the contingent of 20,000 which left Australia at the outbreak of the war 5,000 were mounted, and many of the others could ride, says Capt. D. Fallon, M.C., of the Australian forces. Our training in Egypt consisted chiefly of mounted work, and we never did a "stunt" without the operation of the cavalry. To my regret, we had only one mounted action before we dug in and began to live our lives like rabbits.

During the early part of 1915 10,000 Turks, under Prussian officers, rode undetected across the Arabian Desert and attacked us on the Suez Canal. It was a brilliant strategic movement for such a large force to cross the sands without being spotted by our fliers. All day long our aviators scanned the desert for any approaching troops and saw none, although there were 10,000 Turks within calling distance. The Turks marched at night, pulling their small guns along, but during the day lay hidden in the sand.

Rounded Up the Turks.

When the alarm sounded we were camped at Ishmalia, on the Egyptian side of the canal. Without fully equipping ourselves we swam the canal and chased the Turks across the desert and rounded them up at we do our cattle in Australia. The Turks opened fire with their 3-inch guns and rifles, cheering and shouting like a lot of schoolboys. We rode right through them and made for their guns, which we captured after sabring the gunners. The Turks again and again reformed, but they were no match for the daredevil and pugnacious Anzacs, who play at war with the same enthusiasm as they play at their national games of sport.

The Australian Light Horse had many thrilling experiences. Its men rode into a great territory over which they roamed almost at will, like cavaliers of old, seeking combats with those who would accept their gauge. Stories of their gallant charges with drawn sabres against enemy batteries and into strong infantry positions were innumerable. But perhaps none of them had a more exciting adventure than a squadron of Queenslanders.

For a considerable distance these boys cantered along over the sands without encountering an enemy. Then they came upon a battery of guns and found themselves being fired at point blank by 3-inch pieces. The infantry was in a tight place and needed assistance badly. It got it from the cavalry which came pounding up in columns of four, and whose leader, riding up the situation, sent it swerving in on either side of the battery. The men charged straight in among the gun crews with sabres flashing and with cheers at the opportunity which offered itself. It was over in a minute, and the last of the enemy lay beaten and trampled upon. The incident over, the cavalry trotted off in search of other adventures.

Flying Leap Upon Enemy.

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fluently. He was sent forward with orders to engage the officer in conversation until the rest of the troopers could close in with their sabres. The little emissary was successful in his mission by expressing the attention of the officer with a cock and bull story, to which the Turkish officer listened, because he did not know that we were anywhere about. He listened a moment too long, however, for we rushed in and killed or captured most of the Turks.

Fine Cavalry Exploit.

The mounted men from New South Wales at the same attack on the Suez waited a long time for the signal that sent them into action and then rode "hell for leather" to the attack. They succeeded in crossing the canal and penetrating the enemy's lines. What followed equals anything in cavalry exploits in the history of the Empire. A single squadron found itself all alone. Racing forward, the enemy to the right and left of them, the troops galloped over the crest of a sand hill concealing the enemy's guns. Charging straight for a battery, sabring everything in sight as they came, they went to the guns. Advancing down the slope they found themselves facing a battery of four light field pieces. Charging straight, and shooting as they galloped, they came on so quickly that the enemy had no time to load the guns. The gunners attempted to resist, but before they could make a move the cavalry wiped out the crews with the sword.

Dusk found this force two miles inside the desert, commanded by a lieutenant. A defensive position was necessary. With their swords the horsemen fought their way through to the hills. There they were dismounted and two messengers who were sent back to report their position had their horses shot under them, but managed to reach their destination. Darkness was falling and the troops were isolated. The retirement was a succession of hand to hand struggles. Four times the little party met the enemy and dispersed them. Midnight passed when they reached the canal again, having fought their way through the enemy lines to safety.

THE CAUSE OF BACKACHE

Every muscle in the body needs constantly a supply of rich, red blood in proportion to the work it does. The muscles of the back are under a heavy strain and have but little rest. When the blood is thin they lack nourishment, and the result is a sensation of pain in those muscles. Some people think pain in the back means kidney trouble, but the best medical authorities agree that backache seldom or never has anything to do with the kidneys. Organic kidney disease may have progressed to a critical point without developing a pain in the back. This being the case pain in the back should always lead the sufferer to look to the condition of his blood. It will be found in most cases that the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to build up the blood will stop the sensation of pain in the ill-nourished muscles of the back. How much better it is to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for the blood than to give way to unreasonable alarm about your kidneys. If you suspect your kidneys any doctor can make tests in ten minutes that will set your fears at rest, or tell you the worst. But in any event to be perfectly healthy you must keep the blood in good condition, and for this purpose no other medicine can equal Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

You can get these pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

BIRDS AND AIRMEN.

Observations Regarding Movements of Birds Made by Aviators.

Some interesting observations on the movements of birds at great heights have been made by French aviators. It has been now established, according to Henry Wood, the United Press correspondent with the French armies, that swallows in flying maintain an average altitude of 700 yards. Wild ducks, on the other hand, prefer a greater height, and stick to an altitude of 1,800 yards. Green plovers maintain at all times an even greater altitude, and in March, during their period of migration, the French aviators have met them at a height of 2,150 yards. Wild ducks in flight are particularly interesting. Every one knows that these birds always fly in single file behind their leaders, but it is now proved that the wild ducks execute every movement with a wonderful simultaneous and degree of precision. If, for example, the leading duck at the head of the file changes the position of a wing in order to fly either higher or lower, all of the others make the same movement, apparently at the same moment. The average speed of wild ducks in flight is proved at sixty-five and a half miles an hour when they are flying upward and sixty-nine miles an hour when flying horizontally, which agrees with the estimate which has been previously made.

Potash has been found in Arizona in a state of solution, and is pumped easily.

An old razor-stop can be serviceably used in the kitchen to clean cutlery. Put soap-powder on it and rub the large steel knives over it. It saves the hands.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

For the Girls Of the Family



She has a vest, for they are very stylish this year, but it can be omitted if so desired. McCall Pattern No. 7764, Girl's Dress. In 6 sizes, 4 to 14 years. Price, 15 cents.



Jaunty and smart is this simple frock with its sailor collar and short sleeves. McCall Pattern No. 7888, Girl's Simplicity Dress. In 6 sizes, 4 to 14 years. Price, 15 cents.

These patterns may be obtained from your local McCall dealer, or from the McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Dept. W.

DOUKHOBORS SEND JAM.

Gift to Wounded Soldiers From Western Community.

A gift of 20,000 pounds of jam has just been received by the Military Hospitals Commission from the Doukhobors, the Christian Community of Universal Brotherhood at Brilliant, B.C., for the convalescent soldier patients in the western hospitals and sanatoria.

War is against the tenets of the Doukhobor faith, and exemption from military service was promised them by the Canadian Government when they came to the west from Russia to settle, but like the Quakers who are doing their work in reconstruction service, this western community is eager to succor the wounded.

Jam is the most universally popular delicacy on the soldiers' menu, whether he is sick or well, and no gift, according to Miss Violet M. Ryley, the General Organizing Dietitian for the convalescent hospitals, could be more welcome.