

GERMAN LINERS TO BRING MEN HOME

AMERICAN AND AUSTRALIAN
TROOPS RETURNED

New Armistice Agreement Places
Large German Steamships at
the Disposal of Allies.

All the great German liners and the more important of the other German passenger steamships, the list including the huge *Imperator*, may be placed on the North Atlantic route to transport American troops homeward, under the agreement for the extension of the German armistice signed at Treves. The German maritime fleet, virtually in its entirety, is placed at the disposal of the associated government to be distributed among them in accordance with the needs of the various nations. Only some of the smaller steamships are left to the Germans.

The allotment of the steamships among the associated Powers will be governed partly by the respective needs of the nations and partly by the suitability of the steamships for use on particular routes. The giant liners, like the *Imperator* and the other big modern steamships finished during the war, are too deep in draft to pass through the Suez Canal. Hence Great Britain will take the moderate-sized steamships for the Australian service. The smaller steamships that are left to the Germans are for their needs in the Baltic coast traffic.

Food to Pay for Ships.
The money will be applied in payment for the foodstuffs furnished to Germany under another part of the agreement.

Available remuneration for the use of these ships is to be paid to Germany. The supplies to be furnished include 70,000 tons of pork to satisfy the recent need of Germany for fats. The furnishing of 200,000 tons of cereals is provided for, but for part of this amount condensed milk may be substituted.

The meetings at which the shipping arrangements were elaborated were held recently from those of the regular armistice commission, and were the first civilian deliberations between the Germans and the representatives of the associated governments since the conclusion of hostilities. They were marked by a less formal spirit than the strictly military deliberations of the armistice commissions.

Germany to Deliver Ship.
Marshal Foch planned to have the agreement drafted and signed at one short meeting, but the shipping experts found this to be impossible. Three meetings, lasting over midnight on Thursday and several hours into Friday, were necessary for the discussion of the details. Another meeting is planned to be held at the end of the month.

The delegates of the associated governments proposed that the Germans furnish the coal and the ships' stores. The Germans protested that this was impossible, specifying the lubricants particularly as something they were unable to furnish. It was finally arranged that the Germans furnish the coal and the stores, and take the steamships to ports designated by the Allies, who will then take them over and man them.

The Germans stated that the steamships were in shape for immediate service, having been kept in repair by the skeleton crews maintained aboard them during the war.

Europe's Most Corrupt City.

The Prussian capital has been known for many years as the most corrupt city in Europe, but few German newspapers have spoken so frankly about it as the *Cologne Volkszeitung* since the censor's ban was lifted. Here is its latest indictment: "We should rejoice to see a fire descend from Heaven and reduce to cinders the horrible Babel of Berlin. To hell with the Berliners, people without soul and without heart, implacable foes of all Kultur. In the great record book of humanity a monstrous debt of blood is inscribed against Berlin. He who has not yet made himself acquainted with the revolting sentiments which have prevailed in the Prussian capital for centuries is wilfully blind. Berlin is an immense moral cesspool. We refuse any longer to be under its sway."

Battlefield Coincidence.

A curious battlefield coincidence is related by the lieutenant-colonel of the 3rd Hussars. He states that in August, 1914, his regiment, after having been railed up from Rouen, got out of their train at Houtment, near Maubeuge, and rode off to Belgium and the war. On November 11 last, the 3rd Hussars were riding through the same Houtment in pursuit of Germans when the telegram announcing the signing of the armistice and the cessation of hostilities at 11 a.m. on that day was received.

The Women's section of the Manitoba Grain Growers adopted a resolution asking the Dominion Government to create a Federal Health Bureau.

HAIG'S VALLIANTS DASHED HUN HOPE

KAISER'S GRAND OFFENSIVES
OF 1918

Wrecked by the Unyielding Front
Presented by British Infantry,
Tenton Expert Admits.

Wellington used to say he had spent his military life in trying to guess what was going on on the other side of the hill, says a war correspondent. History has to estimate these strategic guesses, and already the time has come when the pioneers of history are beginning to reduce the chaos of the war to order.

I have before me evidence which shows more clearly than anything yet published what was happening on the German side of the hill during those anxious months in the spring of 1918. Captain von Schwink began the war as a gunner; then he went into the air service and worked with artillery, fighting and bombing squadrons. He received a staff appointment in 1917. When General von Below was on the Italian front in 1917, Schwink served with him. When the scene of German activity and German hopes shifted to France, von Below was put in command of the Seventeenth Army, and Schwink went with him.

The German Object.

The main idea of the great German offensive in 1918, he says, was to break through to the sea, cutting the British army into two parts, one of which was to be driven back on the channel ports while the other was to be thrown southward in disorder upon the French. All that happened afterward was in the nature of attempts to repair the plan which had gone awry, or to substitute some other which had not been originally contemplated.

For the plan, according to Von Schwink, did go awry from the first day. Even while the Kaiser was sending about telegrams, while the British public was reading anxiously of that hurried retreat up to Amiens, the German staff knew that they had failed. So different are facts from imperial desires, so different things look on the other side of the hill.

For in that great offensive of March 21 the main weight of the attack was to have fallen north of the Somme. The Germans had no intention of massing divisions south of a line drawn from St. Quentin to Amiens, and so the actual results of the severe check to the northern section of the offensive and their great advances in the south were considered by the German staff—I borrow the very guarded phrase—"as somewhat in the nature of a failure."

The attack, in fact, did not succeed as had been expected, except south of St. Quentin. The swift advance there was judged to be of merely minor importance. The Germans had hoped to gain an equal success all along the line.

It remained to try again. The next attempt may be called another version of the original idea. On March 28 an attack between Onny and Neuville-St. Vaast was launched in order to extend the southern success. The German staff were confident that they would recover Vimy Ridge and capture Arras by the weight of the first blow. As is known, they failed completely.

Unyielding Valor of British.
The reasons for the failure which appeared on the German side of the hill were: First, the artillery preparation was not sufficient, because they could not bring up enough ammunition fast enough; and second, the resistance of the British infantry went beyond all German calculation.

Again it became necessary to reconsider the situation, and this time more profoundly, the check so discouraging and the losses so heavy that the German staff decided to give up altogether the original plan to break through to the sea north of Amiens. They looked for a new scene of action in which they could work with smaller forces and with some chance of success, but still the sea was the lure.

Reading this German history of the campaign of 1918 one finds himself thinking of some eagle bested by a hawk and biting at the bars that shut him in, unable to understand how hopeless the fighting is and yielding only when battered and wounded by his own desperation, he sinks exhausted still in his cage.

Still trying for the sea the Germans organized the attack on April 9, south of Ypres. This, says Schwink, had Dunkirk and Calais as its objective, and from the opening of the attack it was intended to push right through. Again, it seems, the problem of feeding the guns had not been sufficiently studied and again this branch of the service compromised in retreat. The difficulty of the ground, I am told, prevented the heavy artillery and ammunition being brought up, also.

In Godes we had to provide our own accommodation and our own food. The furnishings cost terribly, about \$125 to fix up one small room. "We were asked to give our parole but refused. The commandant told us we would be sent away to another camp. Rather than have this happen we promised not to escape. So we had the run of the village. The commandant was a decent chap and when we got the prisoners from Kut-el-Amara we had a fine time. We all worked hard, studied and learned a lot of useful things. We had an 18-piece orchestra, a variety company, and put on some stunt every few days.

"The other camps, however, were not so well fixed. In a great number the prisoners were terribly treated. The Turks to save themselves at the armistice, handed the commandants. Good job, too, because they were regular devils."

This officer was in Godes, twelve months and got to England on December 16th last. He is at present on three months' leave, which he is spending at his home in Toronto.

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When pelted us with stones and spit at us, but they didn't hurt us much. "The first six months I spent in Turkey are about as slim as one could possibly experience. Generally speaking I think we fared better than the prisoners in Germany, but for the first while, it was pretty tough. As I say, if we had no money we couldn't eat and I could not get in touch with home. Somehow we all managed tho."

Speaking of the prices charged by the Turks to the prisoners the ex-prisoner said: "Tea was \$50 a pound, butter \$5 a pound, and bread \$2 a loaf. So you see, we couldn't manage long on a five-spot."

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Two Big Miscalculations.

It is curious how closely the story of this northern offensive resembles that of the first great attempt to the south. Both began with a spectacular success which the general staff considered a failure, in both there follows an attempt to repair the damage, to set the plan on its legs again. The attack of April, 1918, on the Givenchy-Merville front was made to open out the northern salient and give a chance of further advance as originally intended. This also failed and then the German staff threw up the gate in the north and put aside their hopes of the sea.

Von Schwink, who may, perhaps, speak for one school of German military opinion, thinks that this was a serious mistake. His view is that if every man had been thrown into the offensive on the Bethune-Ypres front the Germans would "almost certainly" have reached the channel ports.

In the fighting of the whole campaign of 1918 what most impressed Schwink was the discrepancy between the German staff's estimate of the fighting value of the British divisions and the actual value. The German general staff consistently and considerably underestimated the value of the British divisions which had been engaged.

Last and most irritating of all these chapters of disillusion must have been the discovery that, as Schwink puts it, "the fighting value of the German divisions was generally overestimated."

PRISONERS HAD TO PAY THEIR WAY

BRITISHERS VILELY TREATED
BY THE TURKS

Canadian Captain of Royal Air Force
Spent Five Days in Filthy
Constantinople Jail.

"Now my name must not be mentioned," said a captain of the Royal Air Force when asked regarding his experiences as a prisoner for 14 months in Turkey. "Unless you promise not to mention my name I have nothing to say." Upon the promise being given the captain continued: "It was about 8 in the evening, on the last day of September, 1917, three of us went up from Mudros in a Handley-Page to bomb Constantinople. We had only one hour's short time when the engines went 'dead' and we had to come down about two miles off Sulva Bay. The Turks soon saw us and began shelling us in earnest. We managed, however, to get to shore and hid all night in a cave. In the morning they found us and we were taken.

"They beat us with their rifles a bit and generally misused and sent us on to the Pasha. He was a decent enough chap and gave us a good time. But that wasn't to last long. We were shut out to Constantinople and put in the civil jail. Filthy is no word for it.

The next day an officer came in and ordered us to give up our uniforms. We refused, and he went out to return with two soldiers with fixed bayonets. So we had to give up our togs. We complained to everyone, but it was no good.

"The Dutch Legation fixed us up with 'clives' and helped us along. We were in jail five days and then were sent off to Godes. They made us pay our passage across the Sea of Marmora and 65 miles along the road. That's the way they did in Turkey all along; if you didn't have money you didn't eat or do anything else. Of course the Turks don't know any better. They are pretty much heathens; they only give their soldiers a loaf of bread a day.

Pelted With Stones.
"Well, we got to Godes. The chil-

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Sure! High Heels Cause Corns But Who Cares Now

Because style decrees that women crowd and buckle up their tender toes in high heel footwear they suffer from corns, then they cut and trim at these painful pests which merely makes the corn grow larger. This suicidal habit may cause lockjaw and women are warned to stop it.

A few drops of a drug called free-one applied directly upon a sore corn give quick relief and the entire corn, root and all, lifts out without pain. Ask the drug store man for a quarter of an ounce of freezone, which costs very little but is sufficient to remove every hard or soft corn or callus from one's feet.

This drug is an ether compound and dries in a moment and simply shrivels up the corn without inflaming or even irritating the surrounding tissue or skin. Clip this out and pin on your wife's dresser.

QUEER WAR TRADES

Certain Kinds of Business That War
Made Profitable.

Some queer and profitable trades have come into being since 1914. Small fortunes appear to be made in the streets. Hawkers, fined for profiteering in matches, have been found recently with large sums in notes on their persons. A vendor of camphor in London, who used to stand on the curb, has decided since the influenza epidemic to open a shop.

There is a great market for the teeth of dogs in these days. They have a commercial value that is not disclosed by the dealers, but there is more than one firm in London making a good thing out of these goods. Inquiries by a representative bring to light other queer trades. There is, for instance, a firm in the Midlands that carries on a secret trade in "souvenirs" from France.

A hawker, who made a poor living out of bootlaces and pipe-cleaners before the war, has retired on his profits made in the last three years in a different line of goods. He sold humorous pictures of Kaisers with trick mouths. He owns a cottage in Surrey now.

"Presida" and Paradise.
The Bulgarian word for "surrender" is "presida," but when Tommy Atkins was busy getting on with the war he couldn't be expected to remember a little thing like that.

One day a soldier was called before his colonel, and asked if it was true that he had bayoneted a Bulgarian who had surrendered to him. The soldier denied this hotly. "It was this way, sir," he explained. "He came up to me on outpost as mum as a hyacinth. I says to him: 'Is it paradise-paradise!' And as he didn't answer I sent him there!"

Sandwiches made of brown bread filled with honey and chopped wal-

The Latest Designs

What an abundance of grace in the soft folds of this draped skirt! And the blouse, too, has all the grace that simplicity gives to a gown. McColl Pattern No. 8676, Ladies' Basque. In 6 sizes, 34 to 44 bust. Price, 20 cents. No. 8677, Ladies' Three-Piece Skirt. In 6 sizes, 22 to 32 waist. Price, 20 cents.



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THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

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Great Britain was pre-eminent in the air at the close of the war, when the British air force was the largest in the world, according to a report made public recently. It fought on more fronts than the air service of any other nation and its successes were proportionately greater, it is said.

In August, 1914, the British naval and military air service together mustered 185 officers and 1,853 men of other ranks. In November, 1918, there were 30,000 officers and 264,000 men. At the outbreak of the war Great Britain had 166 airplanes, 45 seaplanes and seven airships, while at the close of hostilities she had 21,000 airplanes, 1,300 seaplanes and 103 airships. Besides this there were 25,000 airplanes and seaplanes being built and 55,000 airplane engines under contract.

The Women's Royal Air Force, which was not in existence in 1914, numbered at the close of hostilities, 23,000.

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"A German diplomat spent the summer at St. Moritz, in the Swiss Engadine. One morning beside the lake he stopped to talk to some neutral ladies and a little girl who was in the party whispered something to her mamma."

"The German, smiling and twisting his Kaiserlike mustache, said jestingly to the little girl:

"It's rude to whisper."

"She looked him straight in the eye and answered coldly:

"But it would have been ruder still to say it out loud."

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