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All Belgium Mined, Ready for Blow

Germans Place Explosives Under Cathedrals, Historic Buildings, and Streets—Plan Against Retreat Day—Worker Tells What Enemy Will Do.

New York, Aug. 30.—A story of conditions in Antwerp as they are to-day, as well as in other parts of Belgium, was told yesterday by Herman Huysmans, an expert worker in an ammunition factory, who managed to get out of the country, and who arrived here yesterday to begin life anew in this country. His wife and two little children were killed during the bombardment of Antwerp in 1914, and since that time he has lived alone and much of the time in want in the Belgian metropolis. Huysmans is educated and the story he told yesterday was not a recital of atrocities and inhuman acts committed by the Germans, but one rather of German efficiency when that efficiency is directed at the people of a conquered country.

The food situation in all parts of Belgium, Huysmans said, could not well be exaggerated. Milk is no longer to be had and babies are now fed on milk tablets, which are to be had only in minimum quantities. Bacon sells at $2.50 a pound, and coffee, except in the cases of those who still have some money left, is no longer to be had. The country has been mined by the Germans, supposedly in anticipation of a possible future retreat through the country. Able-bodied Belgians have the option of working for the military authorities or of seeing some or all of their womenfolk deported into Germany, while the crops when harvested are divided in a ratio of about four and one-half parts to the Belgians.

Bread 40 Cents a Loaf

"When I left Antwerp," said Huysmans, "bread was selling at 40 cents for a small loaf, meat brought $2 a pound. The potato crop this year was fine for the Germans, but not for the Belgians, for if a farmer had a crop that netted 590 kilos he had to turn over 450 kilos to the German authorities, most of it to be exported into Germany for the population there.

"The Germans have been busy for months mining the country. The mines have been placed not only at strategic points, but in many of the cities and towns, under the streets, and even under the buildings. In Antwerp I myself saw them placing the mines, and I know what I am saying when I tell you that mines are now in position under the Cathedral, Palace of Justice, and other great buildings in that city. The mines are electrically controlled, and the mined areas and buildings are under the constant guard of German soldiers.

"Trenches have been constructed all over the country, and if ever the Allies get into Belgium and begin a drive at the Germans they are going to find a mighty big job to dislodge them. Yet there is not a Belgian living who does not believe that the time is coming when the German will be driven from the land, but it's going to take a world of work, and I think it will be a long time before it is accomplished.

Will Raze All Belgium.

"Many of the German soldiers will admit that the day is probably coming when the Allied advance will drive them back into the country, but they will tell you that when that time comes they won't leave anything standing in Belgium. Perhaps that is the reason why they have mined the Cathedral and other buildings in Antwerp.

"I want to say a word for the plain, every-day German enlisted man. He is not responsible for the trouble in Belgium, and in a lot of instances the enlisted men are big, kind-hearted chaps who sympathize with the Belgians. The Bavarians especially were kind, so kind, in fact, that they shipped them all to the Russian front and put Prussians in their places in Belgium. The less said about the Prussians the better. The kind of men they are is shown by a little incident that happened in Antwerp. When the Bavarians were the garrison they had pictures of King Albert and Queen Elizabeth, the latter a Bavarian princess, hung in the barracks. When the Prussians came they tore down the pictures and a fight followed, the Bavarians on one side and the Prussians on the other. I am sorry to say the Prussians won.

Defences all Reconstructed.

"In Antwerp the Germans have reconstructed all the defences and the city was never so strongly fortified as at this moment. The Germans compel the Belgians to do military construction, and when one refuses they go to his house and take his wife or daughter or perhaps both and deport them to Germany. They do not even tell them to what part of Germany they are going. On one occasion they lined up a lot of Belgian workingmen and asked those who were willing to work for the Germans to step forward. The whole line stepped back two steps.

"If I had to utter just two words to tell the story of Belgium I would simply say 'Poor Belgium.' That tells the story."

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Olives, Plain.
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Olives, Imp. Mixed.
Olives, Sandwich Salad.

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Orange Butter.
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Egyptian, Turkish, Virginian.
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Petrograd Press Analyses Significance of Rumania's Act

Petrograd, Aug. 29, via London, Aug. 30.—Roumania's entrance into the war is generally interpreted as an omen of final victory for the Allies by Russian official circles and the press, which emphasizes its political and strategic significance. The fact that Roumania entered the war at so late a date, and only after careful and mature calculation, in which sentiment played no part is, according to the Petrograd newspapers, "a satisfactory indication of the growing belief among neutral nations that Germany is a beaten nation, and more particularly that Germany's influence in the Balkans is waning."

The two most immediate effects of Roumania's action will, it is felt here, be a union of the western Russian and Macedonian fronts and a pronounced improvement in General Sarrail's position, due to the Bulgarian necessity of troops from the Salonika theatre to meet an attack on the northern boundary.

Clears Greek Atmosphere.

Among the more indirect results, according to press opinion, will be its effect on Greece, where, it is thought, the atmosphere of doubt and vacillation will be cleared by Roumania's decision.

The Rech says that the most significant point of Roumania's espousal of the Allies' cause is that it was not Filipesco or Jonescu that brought Roumania into the camp of the Allies, but Bratiano, who had heretofore persistently refused to be swayed by the inducements of either the Allies or of their enemies.

"In other words," continues the Rech, "Roumania cannot be said, as the enemy will maintain, to have been dazzled by fantastic promises of Allied diplomats into embarking on the adventure. Roumania's union with the Allies is an act of real policy dictated by sound reasoning. The decision of Roumania to realize her national ideals by siding with the Entente is a well-considered vote for Allied victory. The charm of German power has fled and she can find no further allies. Perhaps the action of Roumania will return to Greece part of its self-possession and common sense."

Calculations Studied.

The Novoe Vremya says:

"The decision is the more important because we have not to do with the passing mood of a people, but with the studied calculations of politicians. It is the best evidence that the enemy has lost her strength."

According to Colonel Shumsky, the military critic of the Bourse Gazette, a great Allied stroke from the north along the Danube will force Bulgaria to abandon her plan of passively defending this front and conducting the principal operations against the French and British in Macedonia.

"Bulgaria," says Colonel Shumsky, "will be compelled to abandon active operations in Macedonia and will have to face the serious danger of an Allied advance into her territory from the north. Roumania, on the other hand, will have only one important front to defend, since her strong natural boundary prevents serious danger from the side of Austria."

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REV. DR. LINE NOW AT SACKVILLE, N. B.

Writing to a friend Rev. John Line, M.A., B.D., Ph. D., says: You will be pleased to know that I am now settled in our new home at Sackville, N. B. One thing in this change from Toronto is that it will afford a sphere of congenial and inspiring effort. College work appeals to me as I found last year while lecturing to the young men in Victoria University and still I shall be kept in intimate relations with the churches and their problems. When invited to St. John's during my vacation I could not make plans just then, but my marriage to Miss Amy Caroline Peries, of Toronto, but formerly of Kidderminster, England, took place on August 18th. Rev. Peter Bryce, of Earlscourt Church, performed the ceremony that made us happy, and we had a most enjoyable trip to Montreal, Quebec and other points, reaching Sackville last week, and I take up my duties here next week.

We congratulate Rev. Dr. Line and wish him and his bride many happy years.

St. Isidore, P. Q., Aug. 18th, 1894.
Minard's Liniment Co. Limited.
Gentlem en,—I have frequently used MINARD'S LINIMENT and also prescribe it, for my patients always with the most gratifying results, and I consider it the best all-round Liniment extant.
Yours truly,
DR. JOS. AUG. SIROIS.

The General Protestant Cemetery.

Dear Mr. Editor,—While at the General Protestant Cemetery yesterday and walking round the grounds, I was struck with the beauty of some of the plots, grand monuments, beautiful flowers and general upkeep of the grounds (which I am told was done by one man); but I was also struck with the dilapidated state of the fences, gates, etc.

It is a sorry sight to see this and think of our respected dead being subject to animals walking over their graves. Why is it that the many churches that use the Cemetery do not take up a collection each year to defray the expenses of fences and general cleaning up of God's acre?

Strange, on my return from the funeral yesterday I received a copy of "The Island Patriot" from Charlottetown, P. E. I., and enclose a cutting from same which I think will fill the bill in the case of our Cemetery, or perhaps a committee of ladies would take up the matter and make a collection for this purpose.

I was informed that a stranger in our city put up planks on the Waterford Bridge side of the Cemetery over a year ago to prevent the bank foundering and the coffins falling out in the street. This matter should demand the attention of those interested at once and before winter sets in the place should be secured.

Hoping some abler pen than mine will take the matter up, I am,
Yours truly,
ONE INTERESTED.
St. John's, Sept. 5th, 1916.

THE OLD PROTESTANT BURIAL GROUND.

A large number of ladies and gentlemen met in the Chambers of Mr. Justice Haszard yesterday afternoon to consider the best means to be adopted for the improvement and permanent caretaking of the old Protestant burial ground on the Malpeque Road, Charlottetown. After a full discussion of the whole matter it was decided to solicit from the citizens and all interested a sufficient sum to fence and improve the grounds and re-set the monuments and tombstones that are being broken and destroyed, and to provide for the perpetual caretaking of the last resting place of the honoured ancestors of so many of the present generation living in this city. A subscription list was opened and a considerable sum was at once subscribed. A committee consisting of Mr. Justice Haszard, Chairman, and Messrs. H. M. Davison, Donald Nicholson, M.P., Percy Pope, Henry Smith, W. Allan Stewart and W. H. Long was appointed to take charge of the matter.—From "The Island Patriot" of Sept. 1st, 1916, Charlottetown.

Everyday Etiquette.

"Should one answer a letter which acknowledges your expression of sympathy to one who has had a loved one pass away?" asked Mabel.

"No reply is necessary to your note of condolence. When you have written and received a reply that ends the obligation on both sides," answered her society friend.

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