The World Window

The Fall Przemysl

Germans naturally belittle the surrender of Przemysl, as has the Russians have rechristened it Permysl. They pretend that it will have little or no effect on the course of the campaign altho they

are compelled to describe the incident as a disagreeable blow. That the fall of this chief Galician stronghold is not decisive, is of course true, nevertheless, it cannot but have material influence in the furtheir development of events in the eastern field. It removes a serlous hindrance to the Russian plan of operations, will hearten the morale of the Russian armies and correspondingly weaken that of the Austrian and Hungarian troops. The information now available gives the Russian achievement even more importance than was at first estimated. It came with an element of surprise to find that the garrison numbered 120,000 men and as the casualties exceeded 40,000 the original strength must have equalled four army corps. This adds lustre to the fact, more especially, when the Russians having no heavy siege guns were compelled to surround the fortified area with a ring of steel and await the slow process of exhaustion. Galicia is lost to Austria and the Dual Monarchy if it survives the war, will be considerably smaller in area than it was when it served its ultimatum on Servia.

The Teutonic allies have failed to gain the goal of their ambition in Eastern Europe. That goal was Warsaw, which had it been captured early in the war would have seriously crippled Russian ef-

Warsaw German Goal

fort. There can be no doubt about the ultimate object of the German Government as it has been openly avowed. Poland would have been lost to Russia along with a large slice of the territory of Russia Proper. All Germany, has accomplished after eight months of war is to have prevented an invasion, except to a limited extent in East Prussia and kept the battle ground in Poland. But Germans apparently have not wholly lost hope of winning the eastern campaign, which, if a leading Berlin newspaper is to be accepted as an authority, they regard as the real theatre of war and as deciding the fate of the campaign in the west. The German strategists certainly looked for victory over the Russians, and they gained some notable, but partial successes. They have not been able, however, to defeat decisively the armies of the Czar, or even to weaken them while the Russians have inflicted severe punishment on the Austrian armies which, even with German stiffening, have proved unequal to the task of recovering Galicia and Bukowina.

Balkan Ambitions

Writing in United Empire, the Royal Colonial Institute Journal, on the Teuton-Slav contest in Eastern Europe, Mr. A. Wyatt Tilby points out that German policy was seriously incommoded by the

formation of the Balkan League in 1912. That league, he adds, proved that what the diplomats had thought impossible could be achieved—the Balkan peoples could, on occasion sink their differences in the common cause. Austrian intrigues brought about the second Balkan war when Bulgaria not only lost Adrianople to Turkey and was forced to cede territory to Rumania, but received a much smaller part of the Turkish spoil than she had counted on gaining. All these Balkan states, notwithstanding that second war, know that a German victory in the war means the loss of their independence. They would pass into the German sphere and provide the pathway to Constantinople, Asia Minor, the Persian Gulf and thence to India. That was the Kaiser's day dream cherished from the time he ascended the throne and prepared for by German statesmen for more than forty years. He may still indulge in a vision of victory, but the time is fast approaching when it must disappear, never more to return save as a bitter memory of a lost hope.

To Mr. Wyatt Tilby, it is becoming more and more doubtful whether Germany can produce the human material as quickly as her generals are exhausting it. They must continue to fight battles, or by

The Strain? retreat make admission of defeat. It is not often, he remarks, that one has to calculate the absolutely fundamental factorproduction, versus destruction of human life. For a parallel to this war, one has to go back to the Thirty Years' War which exhausted Germany for a century. "Then, as now in Germany, the

number of men killed in battle rose to a point dangerously near the number of children born; and when that point is reached, it is not merely national defeat that has to be contemplated, but disaster and destruction." Germany is stated to have had a million men killed in action or dead from other causes attributable to the, war while the number of children born annually in the country is nearly two million and is falling year by year. If equal losses are incurred in the second six months, Germany will have reached the danger point. These figures to Mr. Tilby are the decisive test of the Teuton-Slav controversy and the end of the German dream of domination in the near east.

Forcing The Dardanelles

It is the political effect of the attack on the Dardanelles that far outweighs the spectacular element which has so riveted attention. Battleships have always been regarded as too valuable to be wasted in

Can Germany

Stand

an attempt to reduce land fortifications. One lucky shot may disable for weeks, or even months, the most powerful of dreadnoughts or even super-dreadnoughts. Only recognition of political and economic reasons of exceptional importance could have imposed so heavy and dangerous a job as the reduction of the forts guarding the Dardanelles in the face of all the hidden dangers of the mine and the submarine. But, as the old French proverb suggests, in this case, the game is worth the candle, because wherever it becomes evident that Constantinople is doomed, the jackals of the Balkans will gather to claim their share of the game, For the Turk, after more than five centuries, is going to be expelled from Europe, and will find that his domain in Asia will not only be circumscribed, but controlled.

A GENERAL "OFFENSIVE" MAY BE ORDERED AT ANY TIME



The 109th Regiment

The military ardor of Toronto shows strong and clear when one considers the remarkable growth of the 109th Regiment, the city's newest military organization. Of course the spirit of the times made the regiment possible, but its splendid success is really due to the men and officers. The official order announcing the regiment's birth was received Christmas Eve. In the three months since, over twelve hundred men have been enrolled and this many would have been part of the military display a week ago Saturday if uniforms had been available. But the five hundred men who were equipped and who marched gave the city an opportunity to judge of the appearance and general fitness of the regiment, and the judgment was overwhelmingly favorable. The men made an impressive

About half the men are Canadian, the other half old country, and nearly all the N.C.O.'s are imperial service men. The regiment, itself youthful, is composed of men at their best; the average age is just about thirty, and the junior officers were picked with care and without favoritism. These things all help account for the 109th's vigor. Credit, tho, must go to the senfor officers for the fine shape the regiment is in. Col. W. T. Stewart is a commander with ability that in itself forces respect and who has all the admirable qualities of a gentleman and military leader. His senior major, W. S. Dinnick, has brought into his military duties those good qualities that make him a foremost figure in local financial circles, and Major Horsfall is another thorogoing officer.

'Rex Vocat" is the motto of the regiment The call has already been answered for the third contingent. The 109th will always be ready when deeds that ask for big men must be done.

Russian Colonization of Siberia

In extent of territory, the Russian Empire is exceeded only by that of the British Empire. with which it presents interesting parallels and contrasts. Russia's powers of expansion have been remarkable, but her people, until very re-cently, have not shown much aptitude for colonization. This, however, may have been due mainly to the failure of the government to realize the vast possibilities of Siberia and the East Asiatic Provinces, just as it failed to recognize the vast potentialities of Alaska. For after three centuries of possession that immense country, with extraordinary mineral wealth and huge tracts of fertile land has only a population of about eleven millions. During the three hundred years that Russia has been in possession of Siberia, up to the close of last century perhaps three million persons emigrated to that country from European country.

Siberia forms the northern part of the Asiatic as Canada does the corresponding part of the North American continent. Both were long believed to be in the interior mere barren expanses of ice and snow and impossible of becoming the home of a European people. But Canada possessed remarkable advantages over Asiatic Russia, not only in the splendid waterway formed by the chain of great lakes, but in having great rivers discharging east and west and ice free ports on both the Atlantic and Pacific, But the great rivers of Western and Central Siberia flow to the north and find an exit in the Arctic Ocean. And altho Siberia has many lakes large and small, including Lake Baikal, with its area of

13,197 square miles, making it the third largest fresh water lake in the old world, as it is by far the deepest-4992 feet.

Lack of water transportation has been the great barrier to Siberian development. Various attempts have been made to open up the Kara Sea route thru the Arctic Ocean and thus make the resources of the country available for the benefit of Western Europe. The latest of these was that in which the Arctic explorer Fritiof Nansen participated which succeeded in reaching its destination in the Yenesei River without serious difficulty the ice conditions in the Kara Sea beng comparatively favorable. It seems doubtful, however, whether the Arctic Ocean can be relied on to provide a reliable means of transportation to and from Siberia. The development of the railway system seems to be essential and of this the government seems to be thoroly aware. The Russian Department of Agriculture in its report for the five years 1909-13, inserts that "it is important to develop energetically the work already begun in the colony districts, by better preparation of the land that is to be colonized, by the making of roads and wells, the building of hospitals, by postal communication and by extending the work of education and building churches and schools. It is also important to teach the colonists of older standing better agricultural methods. Some efficiency in farming is as necessary in Siberia as elsewhere.' If this ambitious program is carried out, Siberia will some day take an important place as one of the great granaries of the world.

Japan and China

Little has become public regarding the nature of the demands made by Japan on China. The Japanese Government is understood to support the territorial independence and integrity of China, and in that accords with the policy endorsed by the governments of the United Kingdom, the United States and France. All these nations have special interest in the Chinese Republic with its four hundred millions of people and an area amounting to one-twelfth of the surface of the globe. The future of China is to them of the utmost importance and it is certain that if, as has been asserted, the demands made by Japan practically amount to the establishment of a protectorate, more will be heard on the point before it becomes effective. But Japan has so far honorably kept her engagements and it is difficult to believe that in dealing with the Chinese problem the Japanese Government will deliberately antagonize the nations with whom there is every reason to maintain cordial relations.

Japan is said to have required that all foreign advisers of China be called on to resign their positions in the army, police and finance. This, if true, would entail the retiral of various high British officials, such as Mr. Aglen, the inspector-general of Chinese customs, Dr. Morrison, political adviser to the government of the republic and Colonel Munthe of the police staff, Still another demand is reported to be that all foreigners, other than Japanese, should be excluded from the Provinces of Fukien, Shantung, Inner Mongolia and South Manchuria. British interests, both missionary and commercial, are strong in the first two of these, where there are important British settlements. Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, refused the other day to give any official information on the ground that it was not advisable at the time. It may be taken as a fair inference that the position is not without its dangers.

CRUSTS AND CRUMBS By Albert Ernest Stafford

TUDY OF the New Testament with a little illumination from early sources yields the most asng results to the seeker after ccult knowledge. The more I read were familiar with every phase of occult learning. The English translatthat any hint of the occult truths embodied or implicit in the Greek text Bible. The Roman Catholic Church is frequently assailed for preventing Church's version of the Scriptures in English, generally known the Old Testament in 1609. This vermore we use and put in practice, the sion was made from the Latin Vulgate. not conscientiously done Mombert points out many felicities in the verdering, and in several cases the version is more correct than the authorized in following the most ancient MSS. There are many other English of them or as many as he may possess of philosophy or truth or revelation as one may please to call it which the riginal Greek conveys. All this implies absolute liberty of interpretation and the individual right of every man to read and understand for himself, I now of no church that permits this generations of critics and commentators hold them all, and in consequence the Bible remains a sealed book, its text is a dead letter, and the church

has failed to make the universal appeal

to the people which an accurate pre-

entation of the original Bible message

culous to expect the church go-

view with patience They do not understand what they have, and are taught question. The church leaders are bound fetter. I heard the Athanasian creed adopted the medieval and the people are none the wiser. It would be impossible to change the point of view in any general way. Some modification may go on from generation to generation. and the underlying truths of the Scriptures will work out to the top. It has taken fifty years for the evolutionary in spite of the evidence of their senses and their reason. It must be recogniz- worlds, and not as usually understood, ed that it is a wonderful institution that in Palestine can train people to discredit both their reason and their senses. And when one says this the charge is made that destroy the authority of Scripture. On the contrary, I would like to see the short an epistle as St. James. He truths instead of misleading halfed in the divine mind.

THOSE WHO reject the assistance given from generation to generation to students by the discovery of new facts, the revival of ancient learning, or the brilliant synthetic work of scholars engaged in comparative research, have merely themselves to thank if they continue to wallow in ignorance. As Captain Ginger suggests: "Why Wallow?" Early training, prejudice, bigotry, moral cowardice, inertia, preoccupation, and various other causes prevent people takine a vital attitude towards the great problems of life and religion. The real reason, however, is probably that none of us care much for explanations beyond our own immediate actions and we usually understand them sufficiently not to care for further light. We only learn in action, and it is easy to understand therefore, that people are not interested in what lies beyond the area of their own activity. The average man does not expect to go to hell, so hell gives him little concern. The average man is rather bored by the conventional idea of heaven. The happy hunting grounds would appeal to him, but golden streets, harps, growns, continuous musical performof us care much for explanations be-

. . .

ance-No. He mudly hopes for a bet. ter fate. Hell or heaven, from this outlook, are almost equally undesirable, hence the exceptional gravity at funerals. The mourners have a conviction that the best is bad enough. The preacher perhaps quotes the text: of the living God." It is astonishing way of putting it, to some people. but the fundamental truth is there, capable, as it is, of infinite variations as the Douai version, that preceded do not use enough to be traceable or the authorized version. The Doual New effective, and if we do not recognize Testament was published in 1582, and it, we have ourselves to thank. The

> OU CANNOT get any more out of The Bible by reading it than you

bring you no nearer to a good whole-

can get out of a cook-book by the

some made dish. You must get the purposes. It is much the same with the Bible. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. But if you never even who hid his talent in a napkin. To understand the Bible it must be read. marked, learned and inwardly digested. Few of us even read it, and that is the point with which I began, for as much new material on the twentieth reading as on the first, I am sure familiarity of this sort breeds light to bear on what we read. We OF COURSE IT is perfectly ridi-should never forget that the light is in ourselves, and not in the book we anything. A book one cannot read, to accept the unintelligible without be it never so sacred, is but a dead not to vary from the ancient standards read the other avening: "Quicunque but instead of the ancient they have | Vult," and altho I have heard it and read it scores of times, it never struck me so forcibly before that it taught the old gnostic and occult doctrine of the divine Sonship. "For the right Faith is, that we believe and confess: that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son idea to displace the six-day creation fore the worlds; and Man, of the Subbelief, which some people still cling to stance of his Mother, born in the world." He was begotten before the

T T WOULD TAKE a great volume one desires to overthrow the truth and destroy the authority of Scripture. On tained in the Greek text, even of so Bible so translated that everybody had unquestionably an intimate could understand it without the help knowledge of all the occult knowledge of anyone else, cleric or lay, and could of his time. There is evidence in the appreciate the wonderful message it six short chapters of Gnostic, of Herontains of the immortality of man, of metic, of Arabian, of Chaldean, of the unity of life, of the divine potenti-alities of consciousness, and of the buddhist philosophy of the vanity Godward destiny of the race. I would of earthly things: "What is your life? like to see the people taught whole For ye are a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and disappeareth." truths, and I would like to have them He had evidently in mind the beautiunderstand that every event in history, ful passage in the Apocryphal Book of every manifestation of religion, every Wisdom, v. 7.-14: "We took our, fill development of human society, national of the path of lawlessness and deor otherwise, every condition of man is struction, and we journeyed thru within the divine idea, and comprehend trackless deserts, but the Way of the Lord we knew not. What did our arrogancy profit us? And what good have riches and vaunting brought us? Those things all passed away as shadow, and as a message that runneth by: as a ship passing thru the billowy water, whereof, when it is gone by, there is no trace to be found, neither pathway of its keel in the billows: or as when a bird flieth thru the air, no token of her passage is found, but the light wind, lashed with the stroke of her pinions, and rent asunder with the violent rush of the moving wings, is passed thru, and afterwards no sign of her coming is found herein; or, as when an arrow is shot at a mark, the air disparted closeth up again immediately, so that

Township BODY FOUND

Was Last Surv Who Worsh King Stre

her, until they y the flames. He see and occumis ears. Mr. Magin: roke not long age

The fire was of o'cleck Saturday is Maginn. The por where he and his badly burned, but where his uncle live destroyed. As soo discovered neighbor by telephone, but the fire burning.

The fire was cause or explosion of a Maginn lighted about might before retirin was found on the he had been awak but was unable the burning building.

The body was see in Toronto.

Last of O Mr. Maginn was the old settlers of father located on the town line about his brother James farm on the Scart few years ago. It was a prominent body in the Town Scarboro and Yorl speaker on the Re all local elections by everybody. On sisters, now dead, w Duncan who is now Road within a mil Maginn's house.

The Maginn farm concession east of y 5 miles from the canadian F farm and goes from time bridge. It is of about 200 acres original crown gran Attended

In Dr. Carroll's hi

In Dr. Carroll's his to Church, public ago, the story of gatherings in Tor the names of the bers of the chape where the Bank stands. Dr. Carro days was stationed his story of the fire says the Maginn who then lived in Scarboro Bush." Scarboro Bush,"
worshippers at th
of this original con
and Pilkey familie
ones still residen

VILLA STARTS OF TO

Five Thousand ing Matamo Fire Has I BROWNSVILL
The Villa siege
Mexican town
about noon today,
seavy riffe fire
west of Matamot
Grande Simultatotaling 5500 men