

CURRENT EVENTS.

The most startling thing in the recent war news is the account of the doings of a German submarine on the New England coast. Possibly there may be more than one of them at work in the neighborhood of Long Island Sound, but only one has been identified. She called at Newport, R. I., on the seventh of this month, and on the following day sank four British and two neutral vessels approaching or leaving the port of New York. The United States government sent several ships of the navy to rescue the passengers and crews of the sunken vessels. This grave interference with the commerce of the Atlantic coast of the United States will probably not be allowed to continue. Great Britain protested to the United States government some time ago against German submarines being allowed to leave United States ports, and there seems to be no need of repeating the protest.

The Roumanian invasion of Hungary, which began even before the declaration of war, has been checked. Even if the Roumanians are driven back within their own borders, their invasion will have accomplished its chief object for the present, which is to protect the Russian and Roumanian armies advancing towards Constantinople along the Black Sea coast, if the judgment of the newspaper writers is to be trusted. It seems probable that these armies, coming southward through Bulgaria, will ultimately be joined by the armies of the Allies now in Greek territory, and by the Russians coming eastward from Armenia. This is, of course, assuming that the armies of the Central Powers are unable to stop their advance. A further object of the Roumanian invasion was to take possession of Transylvania, if possible, that province being inhabited by a mixed population, three-fifths of whom are of the Bulgarian race and language.

What part Greece will take in the war remains still uncertain though it must soon be decided. The Greek government has not declared war; but the popular uprising in favor of the Allies is spreading, and practically all of the Greek islands have placed themselves under a provisional government which openly favours the cause of the Allies. The whole Greek fleet is said to have gone over to the insurgents. Although it is now said that the King is in favour of the same course, there is ample reason for his delay in the fact that there are a million Greeks in Turkey who would probably be killed if the two nations were at war. It may well be that the landing of a strong force in Asia Minor to protect these people would be made a condition of the Greek alliance.

The Dobrudja, where the Russians and Roumanians are now facing the Bulgarians and Germans, is a flat and unhealthy region lying along the Black Sea coast to the south of the Danube. Its chief value is in the fact that it gives Roumania access to the sea.

The war in Macedonia, where French, British, Russian, Serbian and Italian troops are operating, is gradually extending beyond the Greek frontier; and at more than one point the Serbians are now fighting on their own territory.

In the Carso, a barren plateau north of Trieste, the Italians are slowly pressing back the Austrians and occupying new positions. In Albania also they have been making some progress.

To us the most interesting of the battle fronts is that of the Somme, where Canadian regiments have been in the thickest of the fight and have won distinction for their bravery. Leaving their old lines in Flanders, the Canadians reached the Somme about the middle of September, and went into action immediately. On the fifteenth they were at the taking of Courcellette, where the heavily armored motor cars which the soldiers have called tanks were used for the first time. These are as large as a railway freight car, and move as fast as a man can walk. They go over the roughest ground, even crossing trenches and shell holes without difficulty; and they are so strongly protected by their steel covering that bullets have no effect upon them. They are really small moving forts which only the large guns of the enemy will injure, and they do not remain in one place long enough to make a good target.

The Turks claim victories in Persia and in Mesopotamia, where, however, only small forces are engaged. Neither the Russians nor the British in those regions have met with any serious defeat.

The battle of the Somme began on the first day of July, and continues with increasing severity. The French and British lines join here, and both are advancing and driving back the Germans. The British are moving towards Bapaume, the French towards Peronne, both of them strong German positions the loss of which would compel the Germans to fall back to their next line of defence, perhaps to begin a general retreat along their whole western front. In three months the Allies have gained more territory there than the Germans gained in six months at Verdun.

The Russians are still moving forward against Lemberg, the capital of Galicia. It should not be forgotten that this is the most important movement now going on, unless the march to Constantinople has really begun. Since the first of July the Allies have taken on all fronts about half a million prisoners, and four-fifths of these have been taken by the Russians. Another thing to remember is that the Russians are no longer largely dependent upon outside help for munitions of war. They now have factories and workmen of their own, perhaps quite sufficient for their needs.

It is expected that the Canadian Patriotic Fund will require thirteen million dollars for next year. More than ten thousand dollars has been given to the fund this year by the Indians of Canada.

The Canadian Forestry Battalion has left England for work in the French forests.

In Rheims, where they still have to fear German bombardment at times, many children attend school under ground, the classes being held in the cellars and wine vaults of the town.

I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving; to reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it — but we must sail, and not drift nor lie at anchor.—*Oliver Wendall Holmes.*

RED ROSE TEA

"is good tea."