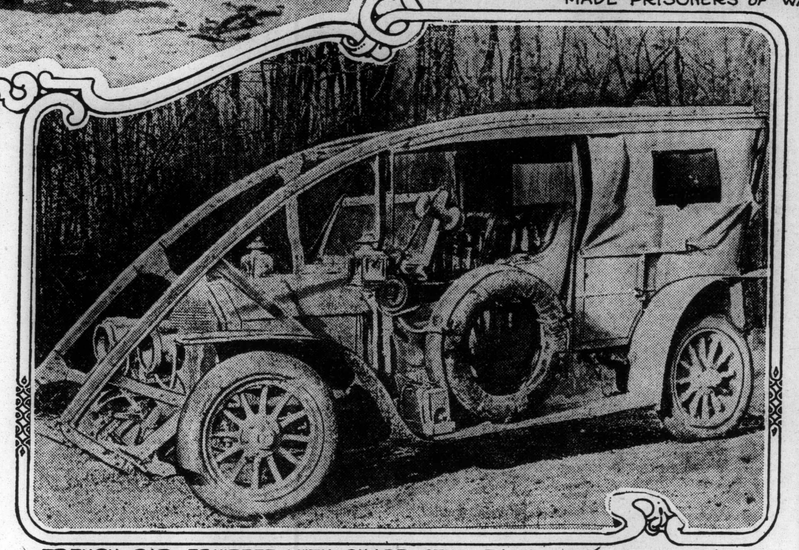
HUMAN INTEREST STORIES OF EUROPEAN WAR SENT BY SPECIAL CABLE

ITALIAN ARTILLERY in ACTION:— PHOTO © BY UNDERWOOD & UNDERWOOD.

AUSTRIAN BIPLANE, FORCED to DESCEND BY the FIRE of ITALIAN SHARPSHOOTERS and PILOTS MADE PRISONERS of WAR, NEAR BIANCA.



FRENCH CAR EQUIPPED WITH SHARP STEEL RAILS WHICH ARE ABLE to CUT THROUGH ANY WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS.—

Russian General Praises Germans' Plan of Battle

Officer Who Witnessed Fighting in Galicia Says Method of Kaiser's Commanders Is That of an Architect Who Provides Everything Needed Before Building a House.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH.]

WARSAW, via LONDON, July 10.

Russians are saying, as Gortchakoff said after the Berlin Congress, "La Russie ne boude pas, elle se recule." This is after the defeat in Western Galicia, which brought the Austro-Germans to Permysl and threatens to bring them further. There is no sign of pouting and a good deal of determination to "come back." Faith in success in the war is not materially shaken, but faith in speedy success is shaken very much. As all through, persons who expected too much, and expected it too quickly, have had a shock. But this minority is incorrigible; a day after the shock they will be expecting great things within a month.

The Galicia defeat may be worse than even the critical expected, but it is regarded with calm. From the military viewpoint it is a misfortune; from the moral standpoint, if it depresses some, it makes others better realize the extreme seriousness of the campaign. Russians have been too optimistic. They never went as far as subjects of Allied Powers, who in their wisdom presumed to give the date at which Berlin would be captured. But they resembled even the cool headed people in all belligerent states. Bad news is made into unfavorable news, and good news into very good news. The Imperial Government is not responsible for this. There is, of course, here a severe internal censorship, but the staff has not invented great victories or even promised them. Now optimism is checked without pessimism appearing.

Big Shells Won Galicia.

Judging from reports reaching here, the army is satisfied that all will come right. Of losses in material nothing has been published here, and the only account is from smuggled in foreign newspapers. The German success was due not only to superiority in material, but in particular to big shells. It was in the main due to the collection of very large numbers of men, and to good generalship which never shrinks from taking risks. The Germans, reports now show, weakened their front on the Bzura badly. They knew there was nothing to be gained on the Bzura, and that Galicia was more important.

A very high general, who was in the Galicia battle, and who is here for the present, explained to me the nature of German battles and the cause of their success. The Germans regard each battle as an isolated, limited and self contained operation. A battle has nothing in common with the hard fighting which is going on in Flanders and France. The aim here is to kill as many men as possible and to push the survivors back. The Germans plan battles as houses are built. Architects and builders draw up a plan, engage a sufficient number of workmen, and lay in a certain quantity of material. The dimensions in the plan, number of workmen, weight of material, all are estimated. Accident or bankruptcy may prevent the execution of the plan. A real battle, like that of the Dunajec, has this character. The Germans plan that a certain thing shall be done; they bring up the necessary soldiers and the necessary guns, shells and bullets, with a margin for miscalculation, but no more and never less. They may, through accident, or miscalculation, fail. But they never start fighting on the principle of do the best with the men and shells you have.

To revert to the house parallel, the house may collapse during construction, owing to a mistake. But the builders will not decide suddenly that they have not enough material and dock the house off one story, nor they will not abandon the house half built, because of lack of workmen or material. They know what they want to do. The battle planned and prepared for months in advance is a precise work.

Germans Plan Everything.

The whole eastern campaign shows this. When the Germans won at Tennenberg they planned the march on the Lower Vistula, which ended near Warsaw. Hardly had they retreated when they tried a new vast and clear-cut operation from Thorn. When that stagnated on the Bzura they were preparing the battle of the Masurian Lakes, which was a great victory, and hardly was over when they were sending their armies south to assault the Dunajec.

"The Germans, in short," said the general, who is by no means an unqualified admirer of the Germans—he criticises strongly their tactics—"the Germans never start fighting on the principle of we have so many men, so many guns—let us have a shot at the foe and do him as much harm as we can with these men and guns. They plan the shot first; see that they have the men and guns to execute the plan, and do not touch a plan which is from the first plainly beyond their strength.

"Thus they never once tried to crush our army as a whole. That is beyond them. Even admitting their technical superiority and good munition supply, they would want, in order to crush us by one operation, at least as many men as we have. Their way is to plan relatively small operations, which attack only one section of our front, in the hope of destroying this section before we can strengthen it.

"The battle of the Dunajec shows that. The enemy planned to take these lines and to reach the San. He prepared everything for this, and something over, but did not intend to march straight to Lemberg. When he reached the San he had to stop—apart from our attempts to counter attack. He has since been bringing up, no doubt, shells, food and men for his next operation. He will treat the next operation as a self-contained thing, and attempt it, and until it either succeeds or fails he will attempt no more. Also, he will not attempt a modified plan. If he feels too weak he will try something new, which, according to his judgment, is within is strength."

Silorsky Biplanes Building for Britain Dreadnoughts of the Air

[SPECIAL DESPATCH.]

LONDON, July 10.

The Silorsky biplane, to which Mr. Tennant, Under Secretary for War, alluded in the House of Commons the other day when he said that Britain had actually in process of manufacture the larger aeroplane which was in use by the Russian government, has been described as taking the place among aerial craft which the dreadnought has taken among war ships.

The Silorsky biplane, says the Daily Chronicle, is the largest heavier than air machine yet invented. It is the pioneer of the giant aeroplanes to which, in the opinion of experts, the future belongs. It has a wing surface at least five times greater than that even of the commodious Farman biplane. Its steel frame is twenty-two yards long. Its dead weight is more than three and a half tons and it can carry a "useful load" of over a ton. At least a quarter of a ton would consist of explosives. Nearly half a ton of fuel and oil is carried. The space between the planes is nine feet deep.

The fore part of the machine consists of steel walled cabins, extending over a length of about thirty feet. These cabins have large windows on each side, like those of an omnibus. The cabins are electrically lighted at night. In cold weather they are heated through the exhaust. The first Silorsky machine flew for an hour and a half over Petrograd with sixteen passengers. Its normal crew is eight men.

In the Ilya Mourometz Silorsky first became famous in 1914. The accommodation was luxurious, with its passenger saloon, lavatories, photographic room and pilot house.

There are flying machines in existence or in the stocks that are not vastly inferior to the Silorsky in size. The Silorsky, however, carries at least twice the load of any other known aeroplane.

A big aeroplane of the Silorsky type would carry perhaps half a dozen giant bombs, and its value as a railway wrecker would be enormous.

A distinctive feature of the Silorsky biplane is its multiple engine system. The Ilya Mourometz has four engines of about 500 total horse power. Two of these engines could be put out of gear in flight and the machine would still continue through the air.

The only consequence is a diminution of the speed. So stable is the equilibrium of the biplane that workmen can leave the cabin and make their way along the frame to the engines without affecting the normal progress of the machine.

It was stated in 1914 that the Russian government had ordered five of these big biplanes. Silorsky machines have already figured in the war in the eastern theatre and there is reason to believe that the later biplanes are much more powerful and efficient than that which we have described.

There has been a good deal of experimental work in this country on large, multiple engine flying machines and we may take it for granted that our aerial engineers have all the data and equipment necessary for the construction of a fleet of these craft.

VIVACITY AND COLD REASONING CHARACTERIZE GENERAL CADORNA

The Generalissimo of the Italian Army, of Distinguished Ancestry, Was Irrepressible in His College Days, but Later Became a Serious Student of War Problems and Acquired an International Reputation by His Writings on Military Matters.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH.]

PARIS, July 10.

Under the pseudonym of Fernand Rigny, an Italian collaborator in the Paris Figaro has contributed a series of interesting "Impressions of Italy." The subject of his latest sketch is General Louis Cadorna, chief of the General Staff of the Italian army.

"It is rather difficult," writes Fernand Rigny, "to give a definite description of the personality of Count Cadorna, the Italian Generalissimo, as his nature presents two apparently irreconcilable features, a vivacious temperament and a mind controlled by calm determination. These characteristics have been in conspicuous evidence all through the General's career.

"It is told that while the young nobleman was attending the military academy at Milan, which he entered at the age of ten, he was a constant recipient of disciplinary punishment. A brilliant scholar, good natured, intelligent and quick of perception, his class work gave evidence of a clear intellect and earned the praise of his tutors, but his deportment brought him reprimands in abundance. He simply could not observe proper decorum. The shackles of military discipline rattled under the paroxysms of his lively temperament, and punishment only aroused the resentment of his stubborn will.

"That the wilful young cadet should develop into a level-headed, imperturbable military commander of the highest rank; that he should during his career have been able to weather the most violent tempests without wincing, without a word of discontent or recrimination, is due to the severe training to which this remarkable man subjected himself. Cheerful and serene, Louis Cadorna has gone through life with the firm conviction that he would ultimately attain the goal of success at which he aimed. When opinions were divided, when discussions waxed hot, or when harsh and provoking expressions hurtled through the air, Cadorna only smiled, a bit mischievously, perhaps. The smile served as a rainbow in the storm. He is the man to settle a question in a few clear, well considered words. One feels that the opinion he expresses is based on sound judgment, and that he is not apt to change it, come what may. One feels also that he does not for an instant doubt his own ability to convince others. As one of his friends once said:—'This devil of a fellow is so insistent that it is no use disputing with him.'

"At the very beginning of his career Louis Cadorna's obedience under military discipline was put to a trying test. In 1870 he was a young lieutenant, barely twenty, on the staff of his father, who was in command of the division of Florence. When the elder Cadorna became the commander in chief of the army which had been assigned to take Rome, his young son evidently had an excellent chance of gaining distinction. The General, however, fearing lest he should be accused of favoritism, had the son transferred to another corps. Louis Cadorna felt his disappointment deeply, but bore it bravely. He even drew a good lesson from the experience, for when Italy recently entered into war with Austria, he sent his own son, who was serving as his adjutant, back to the regiment from which he had been detailed. In this instance the young officer has had no reason to be dissatisfied with the transfer, since his regiment is with the first line troops already at the front.

"Louis Cadorna became a captain at the age of twenty-five, and shortly afterward devoted himself to military authorship, with the same zeal that he had shown in active service. He wrote an essay on the early operations in the war of 1870 which attracted considerable attention in European military circles, and he is, therefore, not unknown to the general officers of the Allies with whom he is now co-operating. After reaching higher grades in the army, Cadorna introduced many new measures and modern principles, which did not always meet with the approval of the older men. Some of them tried to oppose his innovations, which, however, invariably always appealed to the younger element. In such cases General Cadorna, complacent and gentle mannered, knew how to bring his opponents around to his own views, and the results of whatever new methods he put in operation invariably proved their value to the service.

Being finally attached to the staff of General Pianell, in command of the army corps at Verona, Louis Cadorna found in him one who appreciated him and gave him every opportunity to develop his abilities. Pianell had a reputation of being among the most efficient generals of Italy. A progressive, he adhered to the principle that an officer, like a physician, must study all his life to keep up with the scientific progress of his profession. A grand seigneur to his finger tips, Pianell demanded a correct bearing in his officers. A soldier to the core, he maintained an ironclad discipline. Louis Cadorna was enchanted and worked with the greatest fervor and energy under this admirable commander. He wrote on Italo-Austrian military questions, works which are wonders of precision and detail. He published a war manual for officers, also a model of its kind.

"About this time manoeuvres on a large scale were being held at Verona. The Minister of War sent some generals of divisions, whose efficiency was not held in very high esteem, to serve under Pianell, feeling confident that the latter, with his usual rigorous methods, would recommend their retirement. Cadorna was Pianell's chief of staff at the time, and he took pity on the poor generals predestined to lose their commands. By some subtle means he managed to give the delinquents valuable advice without hurting their pride, and when the war game was over the Minister at Rome had no choice but to compliment his selected victims instead of striking them off the active list. Pianell, who knew the solution of the apparent riddle, called his chief of staff to him and said, with a smile:—'My dear Cadorna, I have here all the reports of the generals who were under my orders during the manoeuvres and I wish to compliment you on their thoroughness.' And when Cadorna, taken off his guard, did not reply right away, the old soldier added:—'By the way, you ought to write a manual instructing our generals how to make use of an exceptionally bright chief of staff.'

"When General Saletta, having reached the age limit, retired from his position as chief of the general staff a clamor was raised in behalf of Cadorna. The honor, however, went to General Pollio. The commentaries of the press on the unpopular appointment were bitter, and the whole affair threatened to assume a political aspect. In all the turmoil General Cadorna alone preserved a dignified silence, and when he subsequently became corps commander at Genoa he gave the best that was in him to the service of his new superior. Finally, however, Cadorna reached the pinnacle of military rank.

"Every one in Italy knows in what condition the army was when Cadorna took supreme command. There was much to be improved, but the new commander was handicapped in his reorganization scheme by the opposition of the Minister of War, who refused to sanction the necessary appropriations. Nothing remained for Cadorna but to submit to the higher authority and bide his time.

"Then the great war broke on Europe. King Victor Emmanuel and Premier Salandra sent for Cadorna and charged him with the mission of putting the army on an efficient war footing. He was also consulted in regard to the selection of a new Minister of War. His heart leaped with joy. The time of action, independent action, with responsibility to his sovereign only, had finally come.

"For eight months he worked day and night. The two predominant qualities in his character, vivacity and cold reason, were conspicuous in all his undertakings. There was much to do, and everything was done methodically, thoroughly, without unseemly haste, yet without losing any precious moments. Finally, one day Cadorna went to his King and Premier and announced quietly:—'We are ready.' No undue excitement, no hesitation, no boast in these simple words. But there might have been just a tinge of eagerness in the clear and steady gaze which bespoke a confident mind and lent additional reassurance to Cadorna's unassuming, laconic report:—'We are ready.' "

"There Lies a Gallant English Gentleman," Said the Bavarian

Tale Is Told of a Man Who Gave His Life in Order That His Friend Might Have the Chance of Returning to His Wife and Child—An Epic of the Great War.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH.]

LONDON, July 10.

Under a Paris date the Daily Express publishes the following:—

"There lies a gallant English gentleman," said the Bavarian officer

Lying in the British hospital at Versailles is a young city man, a clerk from a stockbroker's office, who joined a territorial battalion of the Bedfordshire regiment shortly after the outbreak of the war. Sitting by his bedside, I heard his poignant story, told in simple language; a tale of a man who gave his life so that his friend might have a chance of returning to his wife and child.

A friendship that began at school was continued in manhood. Two young men entered the same office and sat on adjoining stools. One, my informant, married last July.

"You can talk about shirkers," he said; "we were both shirkers then. Why should we risk our lives, I asked my pal one morning as we came up from Surbiton together. Then came Belgium and the atrocities. We began to realize things more. My pal said he was going to enlist, and I said I would, too. He tried to dissuade me, because I was married. His only relative is his mother.

"We argued the point. Then I spoke to my wife. She said, 'Go,' although there were tears in her eyes when she said it.

"We were in the same company, and stood side by side in the ranks. Our period of training was tedious. We had taken the plunge, and wanted to get out as soon as possible. Eventually we found ourselves at Boulogne, laughing and cheering and trying to believe we should soon be home again. After a week in billets we were sent into the trenches.

"The regulars whom we relieved had christened the trench 'Hell's Own,' and it was pretty hellish. I can't tell you what I felt like when the big shells came plugging into the trench. I saw chaps I had come to like go down without a word. * * * It was hell! It seemed like eternity waiting for the beggars to charge. They threw grenades as they came, and these wiped out a few more of our chaps. My blood was up then, and I simply wanted to kill. It was hideous.

"I shot at an officer and saw him fall. My pal climbed out of the trench, walked toward the man I had dropped, picked him up and carried him back to our trench.

"I was mad with him. I think we nearly quarrelled, but he said he couldn't see the devil lying there bleeding.

"I set my teeth and went on firing. It was no use; they simply wore us down. We were only twenty, and it was no good going on. They took us away and put us in a barn together.

"In the middle of the night an officer (I learned we had been opposed to the Bavarians) came to the barn and said we were going to be shot at dawn, all except my pal; they would let him off because he had saved an officer's life. I confess I felt a bit down. I thought of my wife and the baby I should never see. My pal said nothing at all, but all of a sudden he asked one of the guards if he could speak to the officer. They took him away, and in about an hour he came back.

"'Where have you been?' I asked. 'I have seen a general,' he said. 'It's all fixed up; they're going to shoot me instead of you.'

"I didn't know what he was talking about. He wouldn't explain, just sank down and went off to sleep. I slept fitfully.

"At dawn they awoke us with kicks. 'Not you,' said one of the soldiers to me, 'you stay here; we don't want you.' They tried to keep me in the barn, but I pushed my way out with the others. It was only then that I realized what was going to happen.

"My pal gripped my hand. 'Tell the mater I've gone West,' he said. 'I never told you before, Jack, old man. * * * Your wife chose the better man. * * * Give her my love.'

"They didn't blindfold 'em. They stood, nineteen of 'em, back to the wall, and fell at the first volley.

"'There lies a gallant English gentleman,' said the Bavarian officer. He knew."

Sir Hiram Maxim Invents New War Device.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH.]

LONDON, July 10.

Sir Hiram Maxim has just completed an invention which is a reply to the German poison gas methods of warfare. Exhaustive tests have been made in trenches under conditions as nearly as possible to those in Flanders, and it is understood that the War Office is very favorably impressed with the invention.

Sir Hiram Maxim says that the poisonous fumes are chlorine gas. "Chlorine gas," he says, "when in pure state at one atmospheric pressure weighs two and one-half times as much as air. In escaping from high pressure to atmospheric pressure the chlorine necessarily rises, mixed with a lot of air, and by the time it is twenty feet away from the discharge pipe the ratio is five volumes of air to one of chlorine.

"The specific gravity is correspondingly reduced, and by the time the fumes reach our trenches there is one hundred times as much air as gas. We know that to be approximately true, because if a soldier breathed a chloride mixture of one in twenty he would not live more than a few minutes. Scientific men have tried to neutralize the effects of the gas by respirators, but you might just as well think of filtering alcohol out of water with a piece of wire gauze as try to separate chlorine from the atmosphere by such a device."

Sir Hiram called "these gauze things" "asperators"—short for "exasperators." That sums up his estimate of their utility.

It is not permissible to give away Sir Hiram's secret, but it is said that the invention will force the poisonous fumes over the heads of men in the trenches.

"I do not think that the British," he said, "should descend to the use of poisonous gases, and I am convinced that the enemy will not continue their use once he finds how easily and how cheaply the fumes may be dispersed.

"Another device I am engaged upon relates to the defence of our trenches against the bayonet. It is upon a wholly new principle, but I am not at liberty to describe it. In fact," Sir Hiram continued, "I have my pocket full of new inventions. At the age of seventy-five my day is one of seventeen hours and I want to give that time to serving the country."

German Submarines Practically Submerged Cruisers

[SPECIAL DESPATCH.]

LONDON, July 10.

While the "man in the street" regards with but passing interest the fact that during the last few weeks German submarines have been using guns more frequently than bombs and torpedoes in their attacks upon merchant ships, in naval circles it has been a matter of more than casual interest, as it has conveyed important information to those with some knowledge of the subject.

Discussing Germany's new submarines and their methods, a leading authority on naval matters said:—"When war broke out Germany, like the other sea Powers, had a certain number of submarines that carried guns. These, however, were small weapons. The calibre of the piece and the way in which it was mounted made it ineffective for such purposes as sinking a ship. Really, these submarine weapons, whether placed outside the boat or on a rising carriage, were little more than experiments. The recent activities of Admiral von Tirpitz's undersea pirates show that this experiment has been carried a big step forward by them. Germany is now using much larger submarines, and these are armed with a 4-inch quick firing gun, which bears about the same relation to the earlier submarine weapons that the 17-inch howitzer does to the ordinary field pieces.

"In addition to introducing this big gun into their submarines, the Germans have mounted it in a very ingenious manner. Gun, platform, &c., are carried snugly inside the boat while she is cruising, and the method of bringing it into action is very quick and efficient. Two men take their seats on the elevator platform beside the gun. A pull on a lever, and the platform shoots up, carrying the gun with it. As it rises from the boat the gun lifts off a hatchway, which automatically forms a protective shield for the gun and the men who work it. One of these men trains the weapon around to whatever direction is required, while the other elevates or depresses and also fires it. Another pull of the lever, and down drops the gun again, the hatchway closes automatically above it, and the submarine is ready to dive.

"For attacking merchant vessels this 4-inch gun comes much cheaper than torpedoes would and in some ways it is more effective. A torpedo costs thousands of dollars, and it may miss its mark. Scores of German torpedoes have done so. But a round for a 4-inch gun costs little, and if the first shot fails a second can be sent quickly after it. Besides this, the gun has a long range. It fires a thirty-one-pound projectile with sufficient velocity to penetrate ten inches of iron at close range, which means that the shell will carry a long way, and it is more difficult for a ship to escape from a submarine thus armed than from one using torpedoes only, particularly so as the Germans have adopted for use in their submarines a torpedo that has a short range but carries an unusually powerful charge of explosive. Armed with this 4-inch gun, the U boat practically becomes a submerged light cruiser."

BERLIN SHOWS BIG POPULATION DECREASE

[SPECIAL DESPATCH.]

BERLIN, July 10.

The Berliner Tageblatt prints some interesting figures showing a marked decrease in the population of Berlin. On April 1, this year, the population of Berlin proper was 1,958,719, against 2,061,733 at the beginning of the same month in 1914. During the month of April, this year, there was a further decrease of 14,574 persons. Of these 13,131 were males and 1,443 females. Of course, says the Tageblatt, this decrease can really be attributed to the fact that so many of Berlin's citizens are at the front.

There also has been considerable decrease in traffic. Figures just prepared show that in April, this year, the street railways carried 47,642,723 passengers, which is five millions and a half less than in April, 1914. The elevated and underground roads carried 6,234,750 passengers, being a decrease of 1,600,000 compared with the same period in the previous year. Taxicabs and other vehicles carried 1,663,580 persons, being a decrease of nearly five millions.