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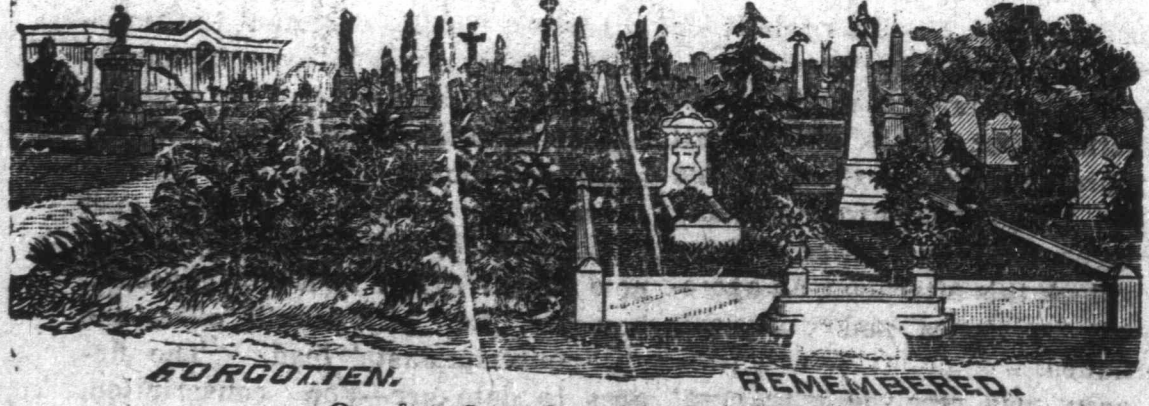
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Italians to Drive Direct At Heart of Austria Through Rovereto

ROME, Oct. 27.—The great Italian drive on Austrian territory is about to begin, according to statements made in a guarded manner by Italian military writers who are in relation with the supreme command. This offensive, contrary to what has been expected by military onlookers generally, is to be a direct blow at the very heart of Austria.
Preparations have been made on a vast scale for action by General Cadorna's forces, and rumours have been succeeding one another concerning coming actions in the Trentino for the purpose of seizing Rovereto, the chief centre of fortress defences guarding the main valley approach from the south to the stronghold of Trent, which is known to be one of the chief objectives of the Italian campaign, and concerning actions to push the gains made on the lower Isonzo by pressing onto the conquest of Istria. The coming offensive however, is to be made on the line toward Vienna.
A vigorous campaign will be undertaken on the line in the direction of Laibach. The capture by the Italians of this vitally important Austrian position, which is the headquarters for the General Staff in charge of the warfare with Italy, will be one of the most decisive blows which can be dealt against the Dual Monarchy.
The Napoleonic Method
The hint of the coming operations in this direction has been seen in the frequent allusions recently made regarding the possibility of General Cadorna following the campaign originated and carried out by Napoleon Bonaparte in the first of his successful wars against Austria. More than a hint is now forthcoming in this regard from General Barone, the famous Italian military authority, who has compiled for publication, in behalf of the Italian War Office, a series of documents regarding the conduct of the Italian operations since the beginning of the war.
He refers to the question being asked as to whether the Italians will march on Trieste or on Laibach, whether, that is, they will endeavor immediately to realize their national aspirations by taking the "unconquered" province or whether they will aim at dealing a vital blow to Austria.
"Italian military action," he says in reply to this question, "has a very clear perspective—the general victory. National aspirations will come afterward. They will be the logical consequence of this victory."
Colonel Barone explains for the first time the problems which confront the Italian General Staff following the victory at Gorizia, and he intimates the method in which the problems are to be met.
The Austrian Defences
"I shall answer in synthetic manner," he says in an article published in the Paris Journal, "these two questions:
"1. What is the significance, from the point of view of the great general war, of the results recently obtained by the Italians on the Isonzo?
"2. What reasonable forecast can be announced, within the limits of the most rigorous discretion, regarding the way in which our operations are now to be carried on?
"At present the Italian front, from Monte Sabotino to the sea, starts from Salcano, at the foot of Monte San Gabriele, runs along the slopes which immediately dominate Gorizia to the east and strikes to the south on the Carso plateau, by Sagrado to Hill 121 to the east of Montalone.
"In this zone the Austrians still hold the group of heights of the Three Saints, that is Monte Santo, Monte San Gabriele, Hill No. 546 and Monte San Daniele and Hill No. 554. Now this group of heights permits of a tenacious defence. Thus also to the north, on the east bank of the Isonzo, where the Italian forces are concentrated, the Austrians have retained possession of Bainsizza, on which are placed many strong artillery batteries, which take on the flank, to the east of Gorizia, any attempt at aggression by the Italians.
"Behind their present front the Austrians have other lines, fortified in complete detail, ready for resistance. These are along the Tarnova forest, in the region of Dorimbergo, toward Duino, and further in the rear toward the region of Comen and thence to that of Nabresina, on the slope which directly covers Trieste. There is consequently a veritable labyrinth of defensive fortifications.
General Cadorna's New Task
"The possession of the entire line of the Isonzo will be assured only when the plateau of Bainsizza has been taken and also the heights of the Three Saints, and this hard task is now and above all things the concern of our skilful, energetic and prudent supreme command. Although the official Italian communications recently have been silent regarding this part of the front and mention only some attempts at diversion on the part of the Austrians, there is no doubt regarding the Italian objective. All the recent artillery action has been directed against the Austrian railways running to the front and supplying the Austrian defensive forces. This action has been successful.
"The results we recently obtained, in this region have cost sacrifices seemingly superhuman to those who know the terrible difficulties of this region, and rendered more serious through the artificial fortifications constructed on it.
"Before the recent victory the Italian army, it must be remembered, had been held back at the threshold of the Austrian empire as by a door which was too narrow, as by an obstacle which could not be turned and whose existence did not permit the tactical deployment and utilization of the superior forces at our disposal. If this obstacle had not been turned by us, as it now has been, it would have allowed the Austrians to continue to hold the assailant in check with relatively moderate forces without being seriously disturbed by the sending of contingents to Galicia against the Russians. As long as our advance was barred by this sort and formidable frontal line our military action, even displaying a continuous offensive, would not have been able to act efficaciously against the enemy.
When the Defence Must Fall.
"But the breaking of this front, although for the moment it has only been done to the southern part of Gorizia, and the lengthening of our front which results from it, change the character of the operations.

The Evils of Trade Wars

The more a "protective" tariff is considered as a "defensive" weapon against Germany after the war the less inviting it looks. If Germany, or any other country, were to be shut out from trade and economic relations with a large part of Europe and the colonies she would be considerably weakened. That is a principle of economics that cannot be gainsaid. And if all the injury were on the one side, it would be a most effective weapon. But, unfortunately for the tariff advocate, that is not the case. A stoppage of trade between two nations hurts both equally. Moreover, a trade wall around Britain to exclude Germany will drive Germany into trade with neutral nations on a larger scale than ever before—and incidentally will make friends for Germany where she has only enemies or indifferent acquaintances now. And if Britain should deal with these nations nothing on earth can prevent German goods from reaching British territory. To obviate this the only way would be to sever trade relations with neutral countries doing business with Germany. Is the post bellum trade war pleasing?—Ottawa Citizen.

HENDERSON APPOINTED MINISTER OF PENSIONS

LONDON, Oct. 26.—An official announcement is expected at an early date, according to the morning papers, of the appointment of Arthur Henderson to the new post of Minister of Pensions.
Mr. Henderson, who is the Labor leader in the House of Commons, is already a member of the Cabinet, but without portfolio, and is acting in general as labor adviser to the Government.

Canards and Rumors.

Then there are those numerous mysteries concerning executions in the Tower of London. One of the most prominent of British generals at the time of the Boer War was said to have been unmasked as a German spy and shot. This canard was exposed by the alleged spy himself, who, while not at the front, has been laboring as energetically as anyone in England. Few Toronto people have not heard again and again the story of prominent citizens of German parentage being executed in this city or interned, but these idle rumors belong to a class with the passage through Canada of a Russian army at one time and an Australian army at another, and do not take rank with the real mysteries of the war. What was the fate of Fritz von Rintelen, captain in the German army and a prominent figure in leading New York society circles, when it was discovered that he was involved in the passport frauds?
The Fate of Spies
He was captured on the high seas and taken to Falmouth, and nothing more has been heard of him. Von Rintelen was supposed to have royal blood in his veins, and there have been hints that on this account he had been kept in a luxurious confinement in a castle near London. Another rumor is to the effect that he was shot. Still another report says that because of his distinguished, if anonymous, ancestry, and the warm affection the Kaiser has for him, the German Government surrendered a number of prominent British prisoners-of-war in order to recover this darling. Hans Adam von Wedell, another German incognito in the passport scandal, was also taken by a British cruiser when attempting to escape to Sweden, and no word as to his fate has been forthcoming. When spies are executed it is the practice to suppress their names, and it is this fact that permits so many wild rumors and surmises to gain currency.

The Mystery in India

Among the war mysteries must be mentioned the troubles in India. From German sources early in the war were circulated many stories of serious uprisings against British authority, but these were doubted, until a member of the British Government stated a few weeks ago that since the beginning of the war there had been seven distinct raids on the north-western frontier, some of them very serious. The censorship from India is ironclad, and visitors to the empire are not welcomed, even Americans being shown that this is not the right time for them to tour the country. But since the Government has seen fit to acknowledge the existence of a serious situation some time ago, it is assumed that the trouble is over. In conclusion, it ought to be said that, while the policy of silence on these matters is no doubt well advised, it makes it possible for the wildest legends and most fantastic reports to be spread. While the censorship is responsible for the suppression of facts, it is equally responsible for the birth and circulation of falsehoods.

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Many Things Must Remain a Mystery Till the End of the War

In Germany there is mourning for the crew of the Bremen, for now all hope of the undersea boat reaching her port has been given up. It is assumed that either something went wrong with her machinery and the boat went to the bottom with all hands, or else she has been taken by a British ship. The British Admiralty follows its usual course and remains silent. It is supposed that the psychologists of the Admiralty believe that to make no announcement concerning the fate of the many submarines that have been captured or destroyed has a more depressing effect upon the spirits of other German submarine crews than a definite statement as to what had become of them. Therefore, whatever has happened to the Bremen is likely to remain a mystery until the end of the war.
The Case of the Audacious.
There are many other things now dark that will be then illumined, and upon which millions of people have been speculating almost since the beginning of the war. For instance, what happened to the Audacious? That she was struck by a mine somewhere off the north-west coast of Ireland is certain. News of the accident was given the outside world when the passengers of the Olympic reached New York, for the Olympic had assisted in rescuing the crew. But the Admiralty remained dumb, and even yet has never admitted that any misfortune befell the Audacious. Mystery shrouds the fate of the German cruiser Karlsruhe, though it is known that she has been either destroyed by British ships or wrecked in a storm. In November, 1914, the British Admiralty announced that it had every reason to believe that the raider was sunk, but in what circumstances was not stated. One story is to the effect that she was cast away on the Windward Islands; another that she fell a victim of an internal explosion.

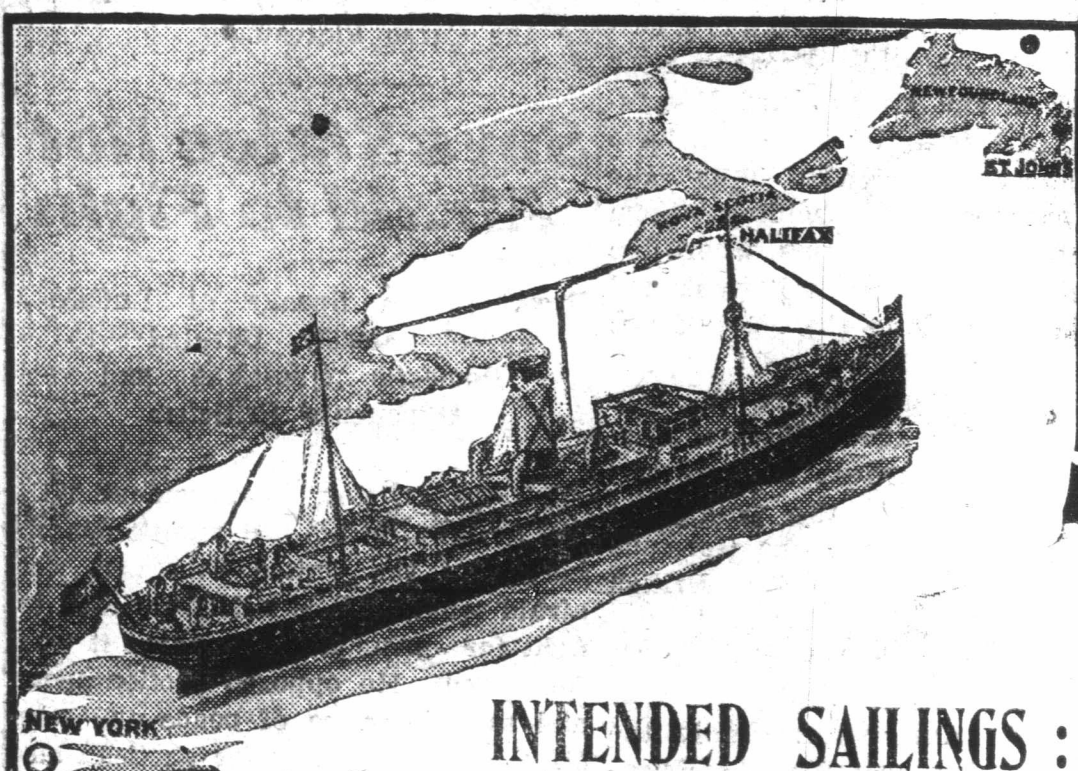
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