

AUSTRIA LIKE DUMB ANIMAL

People Suffer Effects of War Without Knowing Any Details.

COMMERCE WHOLLY PARALYZED

Factories Shut, Few Active Men in Country and Streams of Wounded Men Keep Pouring in from the Front.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) LONDON, Sept. 24.—A news letter received by the Reuters Telegram company from Vienna reads:

"According to word received here from Vienna, the Austrian public is waiting in dumb patience for some definite news as to what is really happening in Galicia and along the Serbian frontier. Although there is an uneasy feeling that affairs are not going well for Austria, the mass of the people still pin their faith on Germany, and are confident that no matter what happens now, the Germans will eventually save the situation.

"Many others, however, disgusted with the ambiguous and scanty reports from official sources, are beginning to disregard the newspapers altogether. Ever since it became known that Russia was making such startling headway in Galicia, the Vienna newspaper comments have been most guarded. The editorialists deal chiefly with the German campaign in western Europe, thus seeking to divert public attention from the Austrian reverses at Lemberg and along the Serbian border, but the presence of 75,000 Polish refugees from Galicia, added to the constant arrival of trainloads of wounded, has considerably discounted the effects of official reticence.

"Commerce and industry are paralyzed throughout the dual monarchy and the stoppage of exports threatens to ruin some of the largest industries, notably the sugar trade. Millions of pounds of sugar are sent annually from Austria to Great Britain, India and other points abroad. Refiners are anxiously endeavoring to find some means of getting their product to England by indirect route. To relieve the stress of the financial situation the government has decided to organize a war credit bank capital of \$1,000,000 besides a number of loan institutions for advancing money without interest in order to carry on various industrial enterprises.

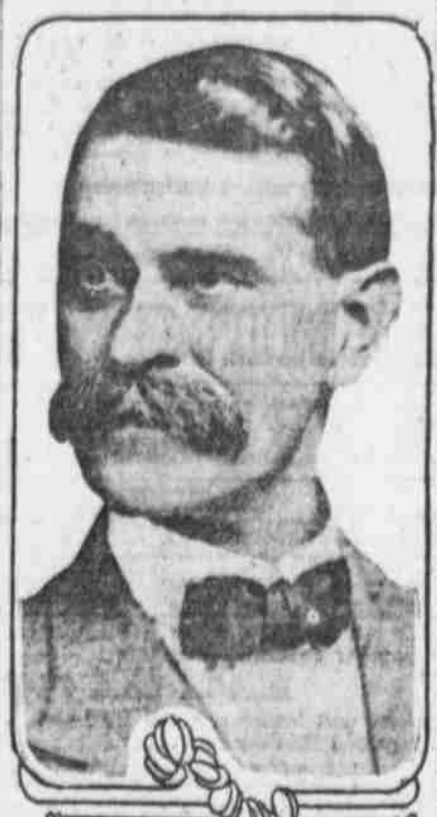
"Numerous suggestions have been made for boycotting goods coming from hostile countries, notably England and France, but they have met with scanty support in the most influential commercial circles. The Prague Chamber of Commerce refused to endorse such a proposal saying that it would be quite useless at the present moment besides being dangerous for Austrian commercial interests later on. Outside Vienna and Budapest the aspect of the whole country is lifeless and apparently devoid of active men, and presents an appearance of strange and oppressive quietness. Great factories are completely shut down, furnaces are out, doors are locked and not even a watchman is visible in the streets. The small towns are deserted save for a few children here and there, and there are scarcely any workers in the fields. The few who may be seen are chiefly women and occasionally old men.

"Women are laborers. They are doing the most laborious tasks, even to the loading of freight cars. Trains are running on most lines on restricted schedules. There are hardly any passengers and solitary soldiers may be seen guarding stations, bridges or tunnels, but bodies of troops, even in small numbers, are rarely seen. All have gone to the front. Red Cross stations have been set up in the principal towns and forests providing vast numbers of stretchers are ready to receive the wounded. The well-meant hospitality of the public in supplying soldiers with food, delicacies and cigarettes is said to have had an unfortunate effect on the peasant soldiers who are not accustomed to such fare. They consumed everything given them greedily and became sick in consequence.

"The question of the unemployed is assuming serious proportions, especially in Vienna and Budapest. Many hundreds have been given work in the construction of fortifications along the Danube in the neighborhood of Vienna, and hundreds more have been sent from the towns into the country to work in the fields. The Austrian peasants are displaying great ingenuity in exploiting the state. They refuse to pay city workers any wages at all and house and feed them miserably. For this they claim from the state four shillings for each worker per day. The government, however, declined to yield to such exorbitant demands. In Vienna funds are being raised to feed the unemployed, but the demand is constantly increasing, since, besides the unemployed, the city is crowded with Galicians.

"Little change in Vienna. Life in Vienna pursues about the same course as before the war. Cafes and restaurants are filled and some of the theaters are open. The Imperial Court opera and the Court theater will be opened shortly four times weekly, the performers having finally agreed to accept reduced salaries for a period of four months. Over half the street railway employees have been called into the army and in consequence the service has been greatly reduced. Nine hundred men have been engaged, but some time must elapse before they are competent to run the trains. A large number of police have also rejoined the army, but the city is perfectly quiet and orderly. So far there have been no demonstrations against the embassies of the allied powers. The prices of food are not much above the normal, although an advance reported on the wholesale prices of wheat, barley and rye will affect the cost of flour and bread. The price of petroleum has risen considerably, and many refineries have closed down. Boring operations have ceased, but exports of Galician oil to Germany have increased because American oil is no longer arriving in its usual quantities.

PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL TANK MANUFACTURERS.



A. N. Eaton

The National Association of Galvanized Tank Manufacturers will hold their annual convention in Omaha Monday and Tuesday. Through the efforts of the president, A. N. Eaton, Omaha was chosen for the convention. Mr. Eaton is proprietor of the Nebraska and Iowa Steel Tank company and is in charge of the local arrangements. Delegates are expected from all the states and the bureau of publicity is planning to extend the usual courtesies and furnish lodgings. The officers are: President, A. N. Eaton, Omaha; vice president, C. S. Rignin, Brudley, Ill.; A. G. Felker, Marshallfield, Wis.; E. W. Kerrihard, Red Oak, Ia.; secretary-treasurer, C. A. Kramer, Kansas City, Mo.

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American Passport Law May Be Revised

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) LONDON, Sept. 22.—Americans without passports have suffered so many hardships and delays in Europe since the opening of the war that there is talk of their advocating a sweeping order in the United States requiring all Americans to provide themselves with passports before going abroad. American diplomats and consular agents say they would not be surprised if steamship lines operating between the United States and Europe were to refuse very shortly to accept passengers destined for Europe if not provided with passports or other authentic credentials. By accepting passengers who have no passports, the lines run a great risk under the rigid immigration regulations recently promulgated by England. Such passengers are even likely to be sent back to America at the expense of the steamship companies. This is especially true of naturalized American citizens who have names distinctly foreign.

Proceedings of prize courts also disclose many complications in which soldiers as well as passengers have frequently found themselves in need of papers to prove their nationality.

AMERICAN CONSUL AT ANTWERP REACHES GHENT

LONDON, Oct. 10.—Henry Diederich, American consul general at Antwerp, arrived at Ghent, Belgium, according to the Ghent correspondent of the Daily Telegraph. In a dispatch dated Thursday the correspondent says: "Consul Diederich arrived from Antwerp today. He told me that many shells fell in the city between 11:30 o'clock Wednesday night and 7:30 o'clock this morning, when he left. One shell exploded just in front of his residence. The cathedral (the church of Notre Dame) had not been struck, although shells fell very near that building."

TELLS HOW ARMIES SUBSIST

Reserve Officer Says Fighting Men Pay for What They Get.

WRITER HATES THE ENGLISH

Terrible Cold Harasses the Soldiers. Who Have to Sleep in the Ditches with Scent Clothing.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) ROTTERDAM, Sept. 18.—The following letter of a reserve officer to his mother, published in the Cologne Gazette on September 16, throws an illuminating light on subsistence conditions in the German forces now in France. It is instructive also in a number of other respects.

"It is a hot morning, the men are busy digging trenches, and now the crash of artillery which kept up all morning, is no longer heard. I am sitting under a tree, reading again and again your dear letter and the remainder of my mail. Indeed, dear mother, if it could be done I would telegraph you every day. But that is impossible. So now, while I have the time, I will write you as long a letter as possible. One never knows what the future will bring. "This is a very idyllic spot. I am disturbed now and then in a most agreeable manner. Ripe plums fall from the trees most conscientiously. I eat them. I have breakfasted well, and the company barber gave me a shave—which was needed badly. In addition I have managed to get some washing done, and now I feel again like a gentleman.

Divides with College Chum.

"As I already told you the commissary officer of our battalion and I went to the same college. I have been obliged to pay for this happy coincidence with many a bite I needed myself. But yesterday he told me that he had managed to get two honest-goodness, real and otherwise bonafide hams, I lost no time accepting my share—it was fine and will last until tonight. To the great surprise of the captain I managed to get one-eighth pound of butter from a farm. Commissary bread, ham and butter—what a Lucullan feast I had last night. But there is nothing to smoke. Kindly send me a few cigarettes and some pipe tobacco.

"The owner of the farm where I got the tobacco is a woman, 22 years old and rather wealthy. She left the place, not because she feared the Germans, but the French, as her manager told me. I wish these people had sense enough to remain on their farms. We do them no injury and pay for everything we take, while the property of those who run away is naturally without owner and thus not protected.

"There is no evidence here of 'volkskrijs' (war carried on by the population, as in Belgium). The people are rather afraid and do everything to get along with us. Everything is upped down nowadays, dear mother. Master alone is the soldier, right and wrong are matters which he rules on, all power and responsibility has been placed on his shoulders. I thank God that our hands are clean and that our officers' conduct is beyond criticism. In — I asked a woman whether she had a complaint to make against our soldiers, and she said: 'No, the German soldiers are good lads.'

Shells Burn Villages.

"But with this the burning of villages has nothing to do. Most of them are set afire by artillery fire shells, and when they are burned down purposely, it is done because the inhabitants have fired upon our soldiers. In the villages — and — we stores remained in place. Some of our hussars entered them, and were treacherously shot down. The example has brought good results. We regretted that we had to do it, and now that the people have been brought to their senses further measures of that sort have been prohibited.

"In the village of — I saw an old man sit in a house which had been destroyed. In front of him stood a venerable gray old man—the priest—who surveyed the remnant of his congregation with sorrow. I entered the village at the head of two battalions, and when the old priest saw me he looked at me in a way that cut into my very soul.

Then with the sudden motion of fear he took off his hat and held it in his hand until the last man had passed him. I think he feared that a refusal to greet us would be taken as an offense. What went on in the mind of the old priest would be interesting to know. But this is war, and we did not want the indescribable misery which it has brought on.

Hates the English.

"Last night at roll call we heard the news of the German victory over the English, French and Belgians. We especially appreciated the news concerning the English. Our hate for those perfidious fellows is universal and much greater than our feeling against the French. Everybody wants a chance to get at them, and God have mercy on them should they get before our rifles—from us they need expect none.

"At 7 in the evening we heard the news of the Russian defeat. I hope that the good tidings will be confirmed. We are advancing everywhere. "It is a beautiful evening, and I will have to do field duty tonight. The entire village had prepared itself for defense, but in the last moment they lost heart. Just now they brought in a French soldier who has been in hiding five days in a chicken house. "At my side the captain is cutting up a cucumber—off and vinegar have been secured after a long search. "While the officer is an outpost duty he continues the letter.

"War is terrible. Well, I am out in the field. In front of us the territory occupied by the enemy. War is a terrible thing. This noon while I was inspecting the outpost five French chasseurs on patrol work advanced toward our position. We were in the woods. Fire was opened on them at 300 meters. I regretted having to give the command. The officer, 35 years old and married two days before the mobilization, as I learned afterwards, was killed. The others were wounded and taken prisoners. We did not aim at the horses—they and the saddles are first-class, and now five of us will ride. To have to do that sort of thing is distressing, but what is to be done? C'est la guerre!

"I have received mail twice so far, and every time the post arrives I imagine there must be something for me. What has become of the letters? We are here far from human aid—have no tents and are not permitted to make a fire. My meals so far have consisted of dry bread, and I feared that my supper would be again dry bread, but, oh joy, one of my men arrives with a tremendous slab of bacon which he has found somewhere. My orderly has managed to get a few onions, and we have succeeded in gathering six cigarettes—what a glorious supper.

"The field kitchens are a fine institution. We officers get our food from them, together with the men, and I will say that usually it is quite tasty and

always well cooked. You would appreciate the field kitchen if for three weeks you had been obliged to eat the stuff cooked on a field fire.

"Tonight there will be no sleeping, and I wish morning were here. All's well. Thousand kisses.—Otto."

There is a note on the following day. "It was terribly cold last night in the ditch along the highway. "A thousand kisses. Thy loyal son."

McAdoo Jumps on Henry Plan for Aid to Cotton Growers

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10.—The plan for direct federal aid to cotton growers to the extent of \$200,000,000 was the subject of sharp criticism in a letter to Representative Henry of Texas, made public tonight by Secretary McAdoo. The letter is in reply to recent statements to the house by Mr. Henry. Mr. McAdoo announces that the proposal to sell \$50,000,000 of Panama canal bonds to bolster the cotton crop is not practicable and generally objects to all the features of the Henry scheme. "If we disregard every suffering interest except cotton," he said, "and make it the sole beneficiary of governmental favor, what becomes of the democratic principle of equal rights to all, special privileges to none?"

"If we enter upon the course you suggest you must help every distressed industry impartially. To do that would necessitate the issue of much more than \$100,000,000 in bonds and greenbacks, and dangerously involve the credit of the government. It would be a hopeless undertaking, in defiance of every sound principle of finance and economics with certain disaster at the end."

UHLANS TURN MACHINE GUNS UPON THE WOUNDED

NEW YORK, Oct. 10.—Captain Coleman of the Louisiana, which docked today, gave a statement to the New York City News association which quoted him as saying that his observations and information, obtained from soldiers of the so-called German atrocities were the result of orders from high German military authorities and not the work of individuals. "Following the retreat of the army of General Von Kluck, the Uhlans returned to the field," Captain Coleman is quoted as saying. "They turned their machine guns on the wounded lying everywhere, killing them almost to a man. They trod on other wounded men, who, if they groaned, were shot without pity."

See readers are too intelligent to overlook the opportunities in the "want ad" columns. They're worth while reading.

BRITISH AIR SHELL WRECKS ZEPPELIN

Bombs Dropped onto Airship Fired at Zeppelin from Five Hundred Feet Above.

ATTACKING AEROPLANES LOST

Flames Seen Mounting High, the Result of Igniting of Gas of a Dirigible When Shell Falls.

LONDON, Oct. 10.—The following official statement was issued tonight, covering an attack by a British air squadron on a German airship shed at Dusseldorf: "The secretary of the admiralty announces that Squadron Commander Grey reports that, as authorized, he carried out, with Lieutenant R. L. G. Morris and Lieutenant S. V. Zippe, a successful attack on a Dusseldorf airship shed. Lieutenant Morris's bombs dropped from a height of 500 feet, hit the shed, went through the roof and destroyed a Zeppelin. "Flames were observed 500 feet high, the

result of the igniting of the gas of an airship. "All three officers are safe, but their aeroplanes have been lost. "The feat would appear to have been in every respect remarkable, having regard to the distance of more than one hundred miles penetrated into country held by the enemy, and to the fact that a previous attack had put the enemy on their guard and enabled them to mount anti-aircraft guns."

ANTWERP VIRTUALLY DESERTED.

LONDON, Oct. 8.—The Daily Chronicle's Rosendaal, Holland, correspondent, under date of Friday, says the situation in Antwerp is critical, and that the town is virtually deserted, except for the Belgian troops.

RENA GILMAN

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