

REVIEW OF WAR.

LOOKING BACKWARD OVER THREE YEARS OF CARNAGE.

Situation at Present Seems to Be on the Whole Favorable to the Allies, Despite the Collapse of Russia.

The third year of the world war closes with the fortunes of conflict favoring the entente, except for uncertainty of the outcome of the Russian situation.

The Central Powers sustained momentous setbacks, both military and political, during the twelve months.

On the Western front in Europe the Germans find themselves on the defensive at the advent of the fourth year. They fight on lines newly established after forced retirement from terrain which they had won in earlier days at a tremendous sacrifice.

Meanwhile new enemy powers, notably the United States, have been drawn in by the Central Empires and progress toward the achievement of the ultimate aim of the Entente and its Allies has been furthered by political disturbance which will remain memorable in the history of all times.

Chief among these are the fall of two crowned heads—Nicholas of Russia and Constantine of Greece. In Russia autocracy has given way to a Republic. In Greece a kingdom remains but not a pro-Teutonic one, Entente pressure having won supremacy in this part of the Balkans.

Political events within the German and Austrian Empires, featured by the fall of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, have led to open discussions of peace in the German reichstag as the fourth year dawns.

In Great Britain, the third year closed with Winston Spencer Churchill, former First Lord of the Admiralty, returned to the cabinet with the portfolio of Minister of Munitions.

Portugal and Rumania threw in their fortunes with the Entente shortly after the third year began. The United States entered in April, followed by Cuba and Liberia. Panama pledged the United States her aid in defending the Panama Canal. Costa Rica put her naval bases at our disposal. China, Bolivia, Guatemala and Brazil severed diplomatic relations with Germany. Uruguay expressed her sympathy for the United States.

Three new nations were born during the year. Poland was created a Kingdom under German and Austrian suzerainty. In Mecca the Arabians declared their independence and declared the British as their ally.

In the Balkans, Italy and Greece, which were under a republic under German protection and with French military aid.

An estimate made two months before the end of the third year—voiced by Arthur Henderson, of the British War Council—placed the number of men killed at 7,000,000 since August, 1914. French general headquarters recently estimated 1,500,000 Germans had been killed up to March 1. Mr. Henderson estimated the total casualties at more than 45,000,000.

The first and second American contingents of troops landed in France on June 26 and 27.

Nearly 10,000,000 Americans of military age registered on June 5 under the selective draft law, and from these are being selected the men who will comprise the army contingents which America is planning to send to Europe.

In cementing America's association with the nations now her allies, numerous exchanges of missions were arranged. France, Great Britain, Italy, Belgium, Russia and other Entente belligerents sent delegations to the United States as a step toward unification, military, financial and otherwise. The United States sent missions to Russia and other countries.

Fighting on the Western front during the third year of the war may roughly be divided into six phases—two in the latter part of 1916 before winter called a halt; and four after the Entente offensive was resumed in the early spring.

At the close of the second year the Germans were still unwilling to concede failure in the operations centering on Verdun. After August 3, 1916, the French gained the ascendancy, culminating in the retaking of Douaumont and Fort Vaux, with thousands of prisoners and many guns. By November the French had once more come into possession of the complete circle of the Verdun defenses.

The second phase dates back to the commencement of the Franco-British offensive—the first Battle of the Somme—in July of 1916. By mid-September this had reached such proportions that the Germans were credited with bringing up seven new divisions against the British and five against the French. It was estimated that 23 German divisions, or, based on the strength of those German units at that period, about 760,000 men, opposed the British and French on this twenty-mile front. In this battle the British air supremacy became dominant. By November the British and French had taken St. Pierre-

Divion, Beaumont-Hamel and Beaucourt and had penetrated German positions for a depth of six miles.

In the spring, the Germans, anticipating a resumption of the Somme operations, began what has become known as the "Hindenburg victorious retreat" to newly-established German lines. In this second battle of the Somme, Bapaume, Irlis, Peronne, Nesle, Fayotte, Gricourt, Vaux, Roye, Tergnier, Ham and hundreds of other positions were lost by the Germans. In an evacuation which French critics regard as memorial the Germans left a track of wide-spread devastation which aroused world-wide indignation. The British claimed capture of nearly 5000 prisoners in the three months of this German retirement for a depth of from 5 to 15 miles along a front of about 46 miles.

In April the British transferred their offensive northeast of Arras, forcing von Hindenburg to redistribute his forces along a fifteen-mile front. Canadians played a historic part in this fighting. Monchy-le-Preux was taken; and Vimy Ridge was captured after one of the world's bloodiest battles. Canadians held the ridge against desperate counter-attacks. This success east of Arras turned Hindenburg's northern pivot, and British critics regarded it as the greatest in the history of British arms in the present war. This offensive, continued, placed the British astride the Hindenburg line, and the Germans retired to positions a mile or two west of the Drocourt-Queant line. These they held as the third year closed.

Meanwhile the battles of Champaign and the Aisne had been carried on by the French, who in April captured Auberive. In the first days of Champaign offensive, one of the greatest struggles of the war, the Germans sustained an estimated loss of 100,000 killed, wounded and taken prisoners through their desperate defensive operations. Fighting in these regions continues after three months, during which the French have advanced from one to five miles along a fifty-mile front. The present French line runs from northwest of Soissons, through Rheims to Auberive.

In June 1917, the British began an attack on Messines and Wyscheate in an effort to straighten out the Ypres salient. Again British flyers dominated the air. The British had spent an entire year mining the earth for this offensive, which was begun with an explosion so terrific that it was heard in London. Beyond Messines, for two miles east and northwest, the British won and consolidated ground, captured more than 7,400 prisoners and great stores of artillery. Gaining every objective, they placed themselves astride the Ypres-Comines Canal, having advanced three miles on an eight-mile front. Portuguese and Belgian troops aided in this offensive. In recent days the fighting there had been confined to raiding operations.

It is estimated that during April, May and June the Germans suffered 350,000 casualties on the Western front.

The Russians, having in June of 1916 begun an offensive from the Pripet Marshes to the Rumanian frontier, speedily captured Czernowitz and the rest of Bukovina, together with Prody in Galicia, and in August they entered Stanislaw for the third time in the war. These operations forced the Austro-Germans to relinquish lines they had held throughout the winter of 1915-1916.

The Halicz bridgehead fell in September, but the subsequent advance on Lemberg was not prosecuted because of the plight of Rumania demanded the transfer of Russian troops to aid their Balkan ally.

After the Russian revolution, the Russians made a feint to advance on Pinsk, to cover the actual operations resumed in July against Lemberg. This latter front extended 18 1-2 miles. Known as "Regiments July First," these troops, reinvigorated by the consciousness of political liberty, confounded German military prophets by the magnitude and extent of their offensive.

Led by Alexander Kerensky, Minister of War, and observed by American army officers, the "Regiments July First" forced the Teutons to evacuate Berezany, and they captured many important positions, including terrain west and south of Halicz town and strongly defended positions northwest of Stanislaw. On July 11 Halicz was taken, thus smashing the Austro-German front between Brzezany and the Carpathians.

This Russian operation broadened by mid-July, so that it extended from the Gulf of Riga to the Rumanian front, a distance of 800 miles. The Germans were reported to be rushing troops from the Italian and French fronts. Widespread enthusiasm was created throughout Russia, and the moral effect on the other Entente powers was tremendous.

Italy, declaring war against Germany on August 28, began a more vigorous prosecution of her earlier offensive against Austria.

With dramatic swiftness the Third Army, under the Duke of Aosta,

stormed and captured Gorizia, hitherto considered impregnable. By January 1 the Italians had captured 1,200 square miles.

After a winter of artillery duels, Italy resumed her offensive on the Carso front in the campaign toward Trieste. Within a month the Austrian lines were broken from Castagnavizza to the sea. Italy inflicted losses of 85,000 on the Austrians and lost heavily herself. Austria hurried reinforcements from the Russian front.

In the Trentino the Italians took the offensive in June and after terrific fighting captured the Austrian positions on Monte Ortigo and Agnello pass. These they were forced to relinquish, however, in the face of Austrian counter-attacks.

In the Balkans the year's military development saw the occupation of Rumania by the Teutons—a gain of great economic value because of the oil and grain fields. The Rumanian army, reformed, is cooperating with the Russians, and as the year ended is engaged in heavy offensive against Austro-Germans, Turks and Bulgarians.

Bulgaria won successes of moderate importance, including the capture of the Grecian port of Kavala.

The newly-equipped Serbian army arrived at Saloniki in August and began an offensive which won Ostrovo, on the road to Monastir. This offensive, resumed in the spring with the cooperation of Entente and Venizelist troops, won Monastir and Cerna.

In Greece the military moves of the Entente forces included a blockade of Greece and temporary French occupation of Athens.

A brilliant British campaign in Mesopotamia accomplished the capture of Kut-el-Amara in February; and of Bagdad, terminus of the Berlin-to-Bagdad railway, in March. The capture of Bagdad had a deep moral effect in the Orient, particularly in Arabia, where many natives revolted from Turkish rule.

Russians operating in Persia took Hamadan; and further north, in Turkish Armenia, Russians captured Van.

In the Holy Land the British opened a new era in the history of the East. Their advance has carried them nearly to Gaza. Their objective is Jerusalem, which the Turks were reported in June to have partly evacuated.

Except for submarine operations, naval writers have found little to engage their attention during the past year.

Germany continued to rely on u-boats. This policy led to unrestricted warfare which drew the United States into the conflict.

U-boats destroyed an estimated gross tonnage of more than 4,000,000 during the year. This included 2,000,000 flying the British flag sunk from February 25 to July 1.

America's destroyer flotilla arrived in British waters in May. Without the loss of a ship or a man, American warships convoyed the first American troops to France. Two submarine attacks were made on the transports. At least one u-boat was sunk. American warships took over from British and French vessels the patrol of American coasts. Brazil added her navy to ours in South American waters.

Cities from Bagdad to London have been subjected to raids, notable attacks being those by German Zeppelins and airplanes on London. In four attacks on England in May, June and July, 237 persons were killed and 837 injured.

SECRET AGENT ARRESTED.

German Embassy Attache Captured in Spokane.

Spokane, July 30.—Carl G. Grossman, said to be a former attache of the German embassy at Washington and ordered to leave the country, was arrested with a man and woman companion on the charge of violating the espionage act. The police say they obtained papers naming a prominent German born resident of Spokane.

Hagood News Notes.

Rembert, July 28.—Rev. J. C. Chandler, an earnest, consecrated Christian minister of the gospel, which he so much loves to preach, has come and gone. As he went in and out amongst us there was a consciousness of the presence of one above the ordinary man. His preaching is simple, forceful, never above the grasp and comprehension of any. The meeting closed Thursday night.

Miss Carrie Mitchell is visiting in our community.

Misses Slova and Pauline Kvaternik were with us yesterday enjoying melons and grapes.

Messrs. Robt. Atkinson and R. C. Ritchbourr ran up to Camen today.

G. H. Lenoir of Camden is down looking after his mill.

There is an old dardie in our community, one Willis Dennis, "Quirkers" we call him, who has twenty acres of very fine cotton.

All the sick are improving.

"Hagood."

HOPE FOR FUTURE.

SAYS AMERICA WILL WIN WAR BECAUSE OF SUPERIOR RESOURCES AND ORGANIZATION.

Hoover Says Elimination of Waste Throughout Country Has Been Most Gratifying.

Washington, July 28.—America will win the war, Herbert Hoover declared in a statement tonight, because of its superior resources and through the ability of the American people to organize. The success, already evident, of the nation's voluntary food conservation effort, Mr. Hoover said, points to a final victory.

"Germany accomplished less in this direction in twelve months," said Mr. Hoover, "than our people have in four. The only need of legislation and authority is to curb those who would profit by this voluntary movement."

More than two million women, Mr. Hoover announced, have enrolled as members of the food administration and pledged themselves to follow its directions as to saving food within the household. Within sixty days, he said, many more millions will have become members.

"No one can rightly be gloomy over the outcome for the American people in this war," said Mr. Hoover. "Success in this war is a question of resources, and the will and ability of the people to organize themselves to use them rightly and to endure. Many thinking Americans, and the whole world have been watching anxiously the last four months in the fear that democratic America could not organize to meet autocratic Germany. Germany has been confident it could not be done."

"Contrary proof is immediately at our door, and our people have already demonstrated their ability to mobilize, organize, endure and prepare voluntarily and efficiently."

"We entered the war four months ago and it was announced by the president that one of the great problems of the war would be food; that we must prepare to increase and to save our foodstuffs for a year in advance, not only for ourselves, but for our allies as well."

"There has been no consequential national or local legislation, yet the greatest spontaneous volunteer effort ever made in history has not only provided us with a large stock of food as a result of patriotic planting in every quarter, but waste is being eliminated out of every crack and cranny of our homes and of our industries."

"Our present prospects indicate an increase in production of cereals by 850,000,000 bushels, and although our farmers planted an increase acreage of wheat, the weather has not responded for this product. Literally millions of new gardens have been planted. We have the largest supply of vegetables ever in our history."

"The wolf is at the door of Europe and with all the surpluses, our stock of foodstuffs would still have been too little for the demand upon us during the coming year if our people had not responded to the call for wise use and economy. The response not only in planting, but also in conservation has been of such spontaneous, magnificent order as to instill complete confidence in our people to prepare and preserve."

"American canners will this year produce about 1,700,000,000 cans of fruits and vegetables. Our government and the allies will require about 200,000,000 of these cans. The returns we have from various State organizations indicate from the results obtained from the first half of the season that American women will preserve 200,000,000 jars and cans this year of fruits and vegetables and thus will supply any deficiency called for by the armies."

"The elimination of waste in the country has been most gratifying. The best index of this saving is in garbage ravenens from our large cities. We have the returns from the month of June from cities of a total population of 15,000,000 showing a reduction of their garbage by 32 per cent. under the month of June last year."

"Now that we make a board of survey of the country after four months, we find every State spontaneously creating a definite and active food organization presided over by capable and devoted men and women. We find a well-considered and well-defined organization of sub-committees on the various phases of food production and conservation, and we see these duplicated by sub-organizations in counties and municipalities. This is the organization of democracy, and this is positive proof that only upon call of national duty our people will rise, and with superior intelligence and capacity of self-denial and will to persevere."

"Even though the situation in Europe may be gloomy today, no American who has knowledge of the results already obtained in every direction, need to fear for one moment that democracy will not defend itself in the United States."

EXECUTIONS BY WHOLESALE.

Gen. Korniloff Dealing Out Swift Justice to Deserters.

London, July 30.—The Times correspondent at the Russian southwest army headquarters reports that Gen. Korniloff is executing deserters by the wholesale.

Cotton Weigher Recommended.

At a special meeting of the City Council today Mr. P. M. Pitts was recommended to the County Board of Commissions for election as Cotton Weigher. The recommendation is equivalent to election as the law provides that the city shall recommend one of the cotton weighers. It is believed that the selection of Mr. Pitts will give general satisfaction, as he is a farmer and a successful business man, who has the confidence of the people of all sections of the county.

NOT SEEKING PEACE.

German Talk of Peace is a Hollow Sham.

Washington, July 30.—The German chancellor's peace interview is regarded at the State department as another attempt to bolster up public opinion at home and appeal to the peace sentiment in enemy and neutral countries and create dissensions among the allies. The new attempt at peace is considered as hollow as others which have followed a successful offensive.

CHICAGO STRIKE ENDED.

Chicago, July 29.—The strike of twenty-five hundred switchmen, affecting nineteen railroads was called off at 6 o'clock this morning after an all night conference. It threatened to delay government transportation.

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Today we are at war against autocracy and militarism, upholding liberty as the fundamental right of man, not for ourselves alone but for the people of all nations.  
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