

Sweden A Big Factor In European War

UNTIL it became known the other day that Sweden has been mobilizing quietly an army of 600,000 men, the Scandinavian peninsula had been overlooked in the gigantic struggle being waged in Europe.

It is only a few years since, considering the age of nations, that Sweden was a dominating force in Europe, a military world-power, and as much dreaded as France under Napoleon. It will be interesting to keep an eye on Sweden during the next few weeks. A glance at her history may indicate which way she will leap if she joins the general European fray. If Sweden strikes, her blows will tell, for the Swedes have always been first-class fighting men, and in recent years her army has been strengthened and re-organized until now it is admittedly one of the best in Europe.

Sweden developed into a great military power under Charles IX early in the seventeenth century, and from that time on till the beginning of the nineteenth century there was hardly a European war in which she did not participate or take the lead. In the course of this time, Sweden conquered Russia, had Germany at her feet, overran Europe from the Baltic to the Bosphorus, and won more military glory than can be boasted of by any country engaged in the present world war with the exception of England and France.

During this period of little more than 200 years, Sweden produced two conquerors of Napoleonic calibre, Gustavus Adolphus, who practically decided the Thirty Years' War by his brilliant victory over the Austrians at Leipzig in 1631,

and at Lutzen in 1632; and Charles XII, one of the world's greatest of all military heroes, who swept Europe with a sword of conquest and ended by bringing Sweden practically to her ruin.

Charles IX had the great Muscovite empire in the hollow of his hand in 1611, only to lose it through an inexcusable blunder which led him into war with the Danes. However, he retrieved his blunder sufficiently to compel Great Novorod to become a suzerainty of Sweden temporarily. Gustavus Adolphus showed his wisdom in not attempting to hold sway over Muscovy, but he made the Russians pay dearly for their independence, both in war indemnity and in territorial possessions in Russian Finland. But peace did not long reign in Sweden after the settlement with Russia. From 1621 to 1629, Gustavus waged incessant war on Poland, capturing Livonia and the Vistula delta in Prussian Poland.

After the Thirty Years' War, into which Gustavus plunged as the champion of the Reformation, Sweden won, at the Westphalian Peace Congress, Upper Pomerania, a strip of Lower Pomerania, several Baltic islands and 5,000,000 rix-dalers war indemnity. In the course of this great war, Sweden had practically conquered all of Germany, only to lose the country through a single disaster.

The extravagance of Gustavus Adolphus, Queen Christina, and the unwarranted attack on Poland by her successor, Charles X, could not undo Sweden's supremacy at arms, and in 1661 Sweden was a military power of the first magnitude, and one of the largest countries in Europe,

twice the size of the present kindom, and larger than the German Empire at present. The Baltic Sea was merely a Swedish lake. Riga and Libau were Swedish cities, and Kronstadt was a Swedish fortress. Under Charles XI, Sweden lost greatly in moral prestige through her alliance with France, but the country was prosperous on the whole when Charles XII ascended the throne and precipitated his country into a sea of trouble in which she was finally submerged. Charles XII maintained a constant war with Russia and Poland from 1700 to 1718, when he was killed before Frederickshald. He had won innumerable victories over the Poles and Russians, but he had plunged his country from its high estate among nations to a shattered domain on the verge of ruin. Three years after his death, Sweden lost her Baltic provinces. Less than twenty years later, Russians had taken Finland. Through skillful diplomacy Sweden recovered most of the lost territory.

But Russia had discovered that the Swedes were no longer invincible, and in 1807 Emperor Alexander I declared war on Sweden on a hollow pre-emptive, and captured Finland for good meeting only such plucky resistance as the Finns themselves were able to deal out against the invaders.

For the past 100 years of peace, Sweden has developed greatly in wealth and power within her limited area, and "Svea" has never forgotten the loss of Finland. It is a sad blot on her military record.

Sweden has never lost the dream of regaining Finland. She hates Russia, but no loyal Swede will admit that of that nation. It is a tradition in Sweden that one good Swede fighting man is equal to ten Russian. And every man, woman and child in Sweden know by heart the wonderful cycle of patriotic poems written by the great Swedish Finn poet, Johan Ludvig Runeberg, about the tragic struggle of Finland against Russia in 1808.

Those who know Finland believe that any attempt by Sweden to regain that territory would be welcomed by the Finns. For five centuries the Finns and Swedes were brothers and Finland has never ceased to rebel against the work of grafting Slav noses on the Finnish face.—Exchange.

tions built in ditch lines are always built in the advance, the pit, or grave shaped, are used at or near the pivots. The apparent insignificance of the size of these little excavations cannot be taken as guides to their effectiveness. While it takes a man's weight in bullets to kill him in warfare, the judicious handling of less than half that amount of fresh earth will often not only save him, but a whole position.

Spade More Useful Than Cannon.
Lying as he is with only head and shoulders exposed, a perfect rest for his rifle, the infantryman is protected from the fire of the small and invisible to the bigger artillery. His little hillock is sufficient to stop bullets of smaller size and the only way he can be driven out is to be shelled out and, if he does not fire a bullet—just remains there to draw the fire of the heavy artillery—the little sand pile and the unarmored man have done the greatest offensive good in wearing down or keeping centered the enemy's heavy batteries.

The evolution of fortification has been downward. From the walled cities of the ancients they have gradually shrunk to a small spade.

A WAR FOOTING FOR THE FAMILY.

It is beginning to come home to most of us that the effects of the European Armageddon are by no means confined to Europe. Here in America a minority composed chiefly of farmers and meat packers are making more money than ever. The bulk of the country is feeling the pinch of a higher cost of living and reduced business all along the line. We are spared the tragic business of war, but its consequences touch us keenly. We are realizing more vividly than ever the innumerable and complex relationships which bind the modern world together and in consequence of which no nation can live to itself.

Realizing our lot, what should we do? There is a lot of plain, hard sense to back a period of strict economy. Most American families, from father with his cigars down to Mary Jane with her tango slippers, have a long list of extravagances. Frugality is not one of our national virtues. We have the habit of spending and we are proud of it. Well, the present is a splendid time to forget our national predilections and start promptly to put our family living on a war basis. A few months of careful spending can be recommended to most of our households. Luxuries can be cut and necessities bought with extra care and attention. Waste can be reduced to a minimum.

In the long run this country must gain and gain greatly through Europe's setback. In the present months of stringency we can, if we will, both help ourselves through the passing troubles and incidentally pick up a speaking acquaintance with the admirable virtue of economy.

ROAST MEN AFRAID OF WAR

Ad in London Paper Asks for Petticoats for Them—Doctor's Wife Would Do Work for Enlisters
LONDON, Sept. 18.—"Wanted—Petticoats for strong, able-bodied young men not in the army"—is a sample of personal advertisements in the columns of London papers since it has become evident that recruiting the army up to the strength desired by Gen. Kitchener is to be slow work.

Another read: "Doctor's wife, middle-aged, will undertake the work of any tramway conductor, coachman, shop assistant, or other married worker with children, provided that worker will undertake to enlist and fight for his country in our hour of need. All wages earned will be turned over to the wife and family. Apply Mrs. Lowry, 1 Priory Terrace, Kewgreen, S. W."

PARIS PAPERS ONLY ONE SHEET
PARIS, Sept. 18.—The majority of the Paris newspapers, including the Paris edition of the New York Herald, have reduced their size to one sheet. The Figaro is still printing four pages and Excelsior eight, but the latter paper has reduced its size.

MRS. PANKHURST A PATRIOT

Militant Suffragist Leader to England From France to Start Campaign
LONDON, Sept. 18.—Christine Pankhurst, the militant suffragist who in other days gave the world titles plenty of trouble and who has been in exile in France for two years, has returned to London to carry on a campaign of propaganda.

"ONE TIME IN GERMAN"

Therefore Kaiser's Men in Uniform Set Clocks up an Hour With Berlin
LONDON, Sept. 18.—A dispatch to the Central News from London in reports that the German government has changed the time of the country's clocks, altering them one hour to synchronize them with the time of the Belgians. When Belgian citizens are tested, Gen. von der Goltz reports: "In Germany there should be one time."

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WILL BE WAR OF SPADES

Fortification is to war what self defense is to man, and embraces all things that will afford protection to the troops.

It is of two kinds, natural and artificial. As there is only one Gibraltar, the demand for fortifications voiced from the lips of millions of troops must be supplied by a strong co-operation of natural topography and human ingenuity.

Keeping in mind the topography of Europe, it is necessary to consider the spirit of the armies engaged in order to forecast the fortifications to be used in the war of 1914.

Have Learned Their Lesson.

The French, with the lesson of 1870, in which Bazaine and McMahon were locked in and finally surrendered the forts at Metz and Sedan, still fresh in mind, are not likely to use the fortresses in this campaign. The German mode of warfare has always been aggressive, and the siege method of warfare finds no place in their ideas of conquest.

The fortresses, if employed at all, will play so small a part in this war that a discussion is hardly necessary. The field fortifications will be the ones used.

The Victory of Blood.

The Germans conserve their energy, but sacrifice their men. They pit their men against the artillery of the enemy and actually try to tear down the artillery fire with their human targets. The whole creed of the German army is summed up in the statement of the Prussian General, Frederick von Bernhard, in his military treatise "On War of Today." In it he closed a chapter on the necessity of having men killed with the gruesome sentence, "Blood is a peculiar liquid; where it is shed deliberately and with a purpose, victory will be the certain prize."

Notwithstanding the German spirit, imbued as it is with the ideas of carnage and "the last man standing," the expeditionary virtue of field trenches is well known to army leaders, and the modern firearm will probably cause a more extensive use of fortifications in this campaign.

"Halt" Means Dig.

The command "Halt!" carries with it a silent command to intrench. It matters not the length of time the force will remain, intrenchment is the first thing done. How much or how little that intrenchment must be is determined, not guessed at. In fact, with the Germans and the French, it can be said that there will not be a single guess in the whole campaign.

With each army are engineers and their function at the time of "halt" is to determine the artificial protection necessary to shield the vitals of the organization. Men are assigned to topographical strong points and the infantry set to work. Alternate men in alignment carry a spade strapped to them and individually or collectively the infantryman digs. In an hour, under usual conditions, the army is field fortified, every pivot point supported and little hills of raw earth, covered partly with brush or grass, give protection to the army. A few sentries can then join with the little hills and give protection when asleep.

Ready for Full Attack.

With such improvements in the scouting system as now exist the field fortifications are rarely ever built in mere fear of a surprise attack. They are built scientifically to withstand a full attack.

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