WAR'S MEANING TO WOMEN OF FRANCE
FRENCH RECRUITS SEE BATTLEFIELDS

NEWS FROM FOREIGN CAPITALS

ITALY AND THE POPE IN AGREEMENT
KIPLING "STUPEFIED" BY GERMANS

WHAT WAR MEANS TO WOMEN TOLD BY MAN WHO HAS SEEN THEM

Henry Wood, United Press Staff Correspondent, Visits Typical French Fireside.

WIDOWS LIVING ON HOPE

Look Into the Future, Not Knowing What Has or What Will Happen.

By Henry Wood.

Paris, Feb. 6.—(By mail to New York.)—I have just visited a French home, a French fireside as it were. I chose it at random, and it happened to be an apartment at No. 54 Rue Pierre Charron, in the well-to-do quarter just off the Avenue des Champs Elysees. I wanted to know what the war meant to a French home, to those who wait behind. And I found out.

At this particular home, several women have gathered about the fireside since the War began. Ties of common loss, of common need, of common waiting now bind them closely together.

One of them is a young Frenchwoman of 25. Her husband joined the colors at the very first call. He fell in battle September 9. Her three-year-old daughter doesn't know yet that her father is dead.

Widows Living on Hope.

They have no immediate means of support, but they have two hopes. The government has promised that eventually all shall have pensions. When the war is over and the tourists begin returning to Paris, the young widow thinks she can also teach French, as she knows English. It is merely in the meantime that the situation is difficult. She is confident if she can tide it over that she will win out.

A second woman about this fireside is English. Her husband was a French officer and promptly answered the call to arms. That he is dead there can be no reasonable doubt. She has not heard from him for three months, but the few surviving men of his company got together and wrote to her telling how bravely he fell.

Still, the little brass tag which he wear about his neck, and which bore the number that would establish his indentity, has never been turned in to the government. Without that, it is impossible for the government officially to inform her that he is dead. Until he is officially declared dead she has the right to hope he may still be alive.

Seldom Speaks and Never Smiles.

She is still young but within the past few weeks her hair in front has begun to turn gray, then white. She seldom speaks and she never smiles. She merely lives in the hope they will find it—the little brass tag—and in the hope that they won't.

A third woman of the little family circle is French, but her husband is a major in the United States army. When the war broke out they were visiting her girlhood home in a little town east of Verdun. One day the town filled with French soldiers and German aeroplanes began flying over it. But as there were no newspapers no one dreamed that it meant war or even that the aeroplanes might drop bombs. All of the villagers merely watched them curiously.

Then suddenly, her husband, as an American army officer, was ordered by the French to leave at once. He did so, sending a note to his wife to follow. As yet no one knew that it was war. She feared however, that the presence of so many French soldiers might shorten the food supply, so she stocked her mother's cottage fully and left.

Fate of Mother Unknown.

The next day the French evacuated the town and the fate of her mother she has never since been able to ascertain. Through the combined efforts of the French government and the American embassies, both at Paris and Berlin, she did get a little information.

When the French evacuated the town, the aged mother refused to flee. She had been there during the war of 1870 and she could imagine nothing now that might be worse. The two last French soldiers to leave the town picked her up and carried her across the river. The bridge had already been blown up by the retreating French. On the opposite bank they sat her down, and no trace of her has ever since been found.

These women told me their stories quite simply, not to enlist my sympathy but to let me know what the war really means to France. They told me quite frankly that their stories were the stories of 3,000,000 other women in France today.

The Allies May Pool Their War Finances

British, Russian and French Ministers Reach Agreement in Paris on Plan for Raising Money.

Paris, Feb. 20.—The following official statement has been issued here:

"The finance ministers of Great Britain, France and Russia have met in Paris to examine into financial questions growing out of the war. It is stated that the three powers resolved to unite their financial as well as their military resources to carry on the war to victory.

"With that idea they decided to propose to their respective governments that they share equally in the advances made or to be made to the countries which are now fighting with them, or which might be disposed to take the field shortly for the common cause.

A dispatch from Paris January 22 said that David Lloyd-George, chancellor of the British exchequer, and Alexandre Ribot and P. Bark, respectively the French and Russian ministers of finance, were preparing for a meeting in the French capital to consider a joint loan of 15,000,000,000 francs ($3,000,000,000).

Greece Preparing to Mobilize.

London, Feb. 20.—A wireless dispatch from Berlin says the Berliner Tageblatt reports from Constantinople that Greece is industriously making mobilization preparations and continuing the fortification of her frontiers.

Fish Food Is Urged Upon Dutch People

Government Opens Shops and Sells at Cost Price, Also Using Itinerant Venders in Amsterdam.

Amsterdam, Feb. 20.—To indulge the people to make a more general use of fish food, the Dutch government has opened 40 shops in the densely populated quarters of the city, where fried fish is sold at cost price. The shops are affiliated with the government central bureau for the sale of fishery products. The authorities also send itinerant venders of uncooked fish through the streets of Amsterdam to sell their wares. The government venders are distinguishable by an orange band around the arm and their open handcarts bear a painted orange board on which in black letters are the name of the bureau and the price of the fish.

People in Termonde, Belgium, anxious to save their children from starvation, are begging the Leyden Roman Catholic relief committee for the housing of fugitive Belgians to have the little ones brought to the Dutch city and cared for there. The conditions in Termonde are said to be indescribable. The kindly and wealthy Franz van Schoor has taken all the children of Termonde and the neighboring town, St. Giles, under his protection until they can be sent to Holland.

The Leyden organization is preparing to house the little refugees in private families and Catholic institutions. Dr. E. Verviers, the secretary, who will have charge of the children, will also visit Louvain and surrounding places where great distress prevails and many little ones need succor. He says that conditions in Belgium are getting worse every day, and that Holland must be prepared to support the suffering people of the sister nation to the utmost of its powers.

Cholera Is Feared In Western Europe

Medical Men Fear That Disease Will Appear in France and Belgium When Spring Thaws Come.

London, Feb. 20.—It is only a matter of time, in the opinion of physicians who have visited the battle front in France and Belgium, when cholera will make its appearance among the armies in western Europe and perhaps across the channel into England.

The men fighting in the east, notably the Austrians, have suffered from cholera more or less epidemic, throughout the campaign, but so far as is now known there have been no cases in the west.

But with the coming of the spring thaw in France and Belgium the thousands of dead lying in shallow graves will render a vast field of operations highly unsanitary, menacing the health of those whose powers of resistance have been broken down or weakened by the strain of unwholesome trench warfare.

Moreover the Germans have from time to time shifted forces from east to west, and vice versa. In view of this it will be surprising if cholera does not follow these shifts.

The Germans have been criticised for burning their dead; but even English physicians are now inclined to admit that this after all is the most humane method, in that a body once incinerated is no longer a menace to the living.

Presumably the French and British authorities are doing all in their power to forestall a cholera epidemic; but they have not inoculated the troops as the Germans have done in the east.

Canadian Troops Die of Exposure

Climate of England Said to Be Fast Killing Off the Men Sent Across the Atlantic.

London, Feb. 20. — The Canadian contingent training at Salisbury Plain has suffered most severely as a result of exposure and change of climate, and the men, according to reports, are dying at an alarming rate.

"Of 30,000 men," says the World, a London weekly publication, "it is said that the Canadian contingent has lost 500, who have died in consequence of their wicked exposure to the weather.

"A whole battalion is suffering from meningitis. Seventy per cent of the horses have mud fever, and the artillery column, when ordered to go to Lavington for maneuver exercises, had to send word that they had no horses for the ammunition wagons.

"The Canadian commanding officer wanted the men billeted long before the sickness became rampant, and the villages around were delighted to house them and their horses. The war office approved, and then a member of the government stopped it."

Bread in England Is Up 50 Per Cent

President of Master Bakers' Protective Society Puts Blame on Wheat Gambling and Freight Rates.

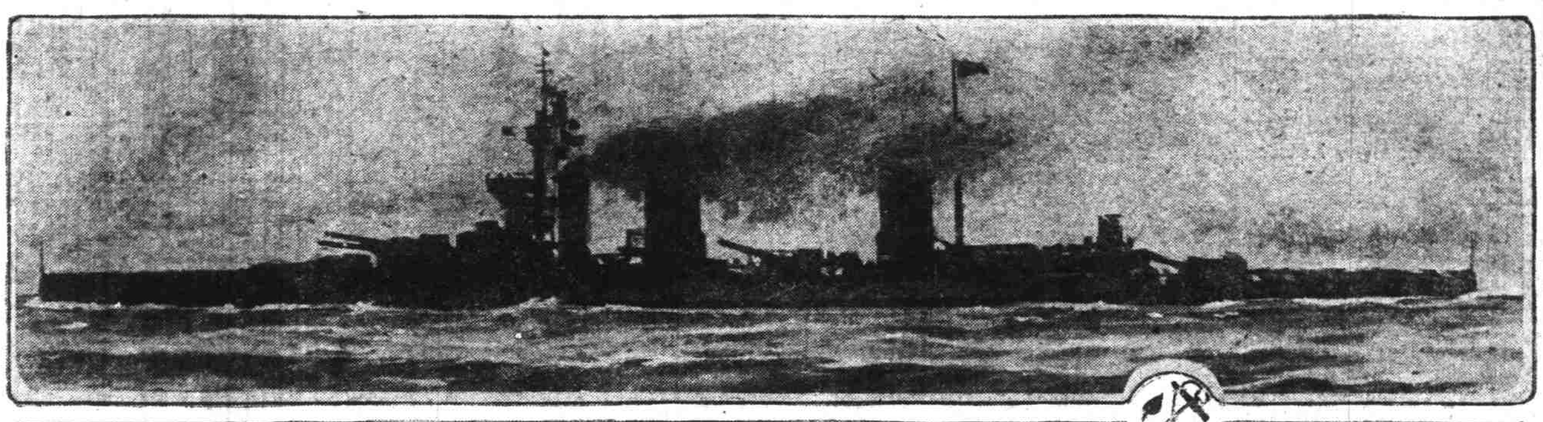
London, Feb. 20.—While English newspapers continue to print articles tending to show that Germany is suffering from food shortage, the abrupt increase in food prices in Great Britain grows more serious, and the labor element threatens to bring the matter before Parliament.

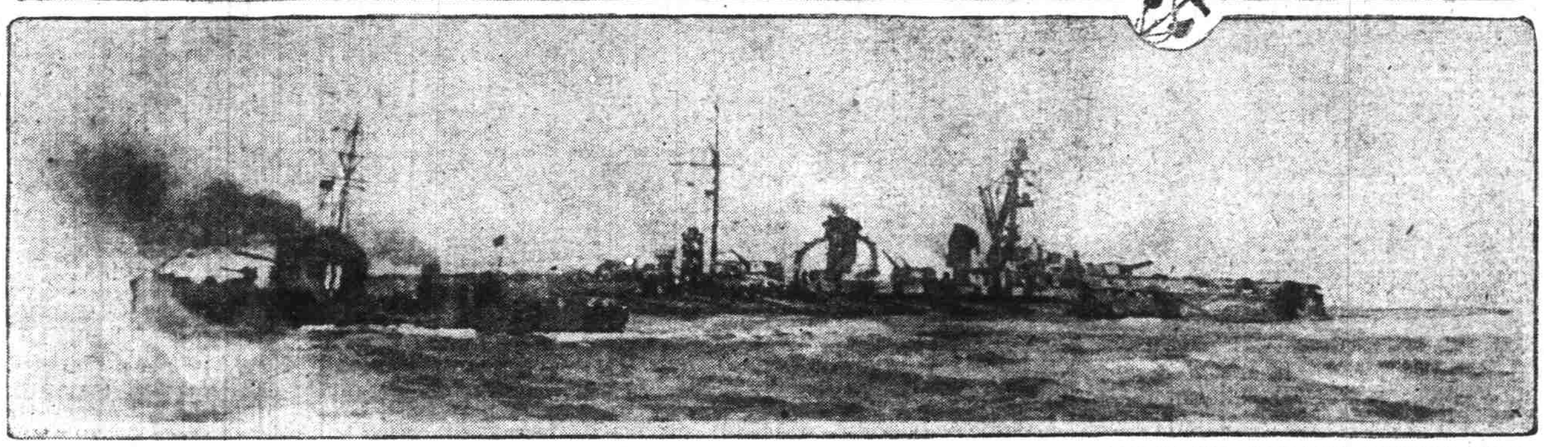
Bread has increased 50 per cent in price to the consumer. J. C. M. Kerslake, president of the Master Bakers' Protective society, places the responsibility primarily at the door of speculators. "Wheat gambling and increased freight rates," he says, "are the chief causes, although the increased cost of yeast, higher wages to bakery workers and the increased cost of fodder have been contributing factors."

When asked about increased freight charges, ship owners say: "The supply of ships is not equal to the demand." Longer and less direct voyages made necessary by the war have had a marked effect on freight rates.

FRENCH HELPED AT SUEZ

Paris, Feb. 20.—The ministry of marine has issued the following statement: "The French warships Requin and D'Entrecasteaux contributed effectively to the defense of the Suez canal against the attacks by the Turkish army on February 3. The Requin silenced the enemy's heavy artillery, and D'Entrecasteaux scattered large bodies of the attacking troops. There was no loss on either ship."





—Photographs Copyright, 1915, by The International News Service.

Top—The British flagship Lion racing into action against the German fleet in the North Sea January 24, in which the German battle cruiser Bleucher was sunk with the loss of 762 lives. This photograph of the Lion, which carried Admiral Beatty, fleet commander, was taken from the deck of another British war vessel.
Botton—The significance of Admiral Beatty's restrained phrase "The Bleucher was now in a critical condition," is vividly illustrated by this remarkable photograph taken from the deck of a British warship during the sea fight. A British destroyer is seen hovering round the stricken German cruiser, battered out of all semblance to an efficient fighting unit, and with flames pouring up from amidships, shortly before she keeled over and plunged beneath the waves.

RECRUITS ARE TAKEN WHERE THEY CAN SEE ACTUAL BATTLEFIELD

French Soldiers Trained With a Thoroughness Not Possible in Times of Peace.

(By the International News Service.)

Paris, Feb. 20.—The recruits of the 1915 and 1916 classes have been trained with a thoroughness not possible in time of peace, because they could be shown actual battlefields. In order to fit the men for service in the field, they have been taken in detachments to the front to observe the conditions which prevail there.

They study the trenches, and are given practice in being transported from point to point as they will be in actual warfare.

Belonged to Military Societies.

The men of the 1915 and 1916 drafts in the department of the Seins belonged mostly to 367 military societies, and through these General Gallieni worked, because regular mobilization had been disorganized. He ordered a trial march, including a trip to the field of battle north of the Meaux. Here they made a study of French and German trenches, and themselves dug trenches with the most modern implements.

There were 1600 young fellows in a party I observed. They left for the Meaux by military train from Paris in the morning and returned from the east the following day. The entraining and transportation were strictly in conformity with military regulations.

Upon their arrival at Meaux the men were divided into five groups, and each was guided by an officer of the general staff under General Chapel, commander of the district, for a visit to the captured German trenches between Varreddes and Gue-a Tresmes.

Recruits Visit Battlefields.

After a cold luncheon at Verreddes, a column was formed for a visit to the field of battle, and the men were told by the officers of the recent successes gained at this point by the French soldiers.

The return was made by way of Panchard, on the Meaux, where an encampment was made. The following morning the party left the Meaux and made intrenchments under the direction of active officers. This work done, the 1600 young men, forming in marching columns, returned to Paris.

Perfect discipline was maintained throughout the whole march. This was made easy because of the enthusiasm of the boy soldiers. General Gallieni, who has since gone to Alsace, was present in person to inspire his men.

Ready to Fight for Her Food Supplies

Swiss Minister to Italy Makes an Important Statement Concerning His Country's Attitude Toward Neighbors

Geneva, Pa., Feb. 20.—The new Swiss minister to Italy, M. de Planta, has made an important statement to the Rome papers, in which he says Switzerland is ready to fight for her food neutrality. M. de Planta said:

"Our national organization is essentially defensive, and the neutrality which we have always observed cannot be broken, except in three cases: (1) The violation of this neutrality by a third party; (2) an attempt on our territorial integrity, and (3) a threat to starve us by preventing food from crossing our frontiers."

This is the first time a Swiss in his official capacity has said that Switzerland would consider the stoppage of food supplies a casus belli. Swiss papers strongly uphold him.

Germany Is Buying Gold in the Orient

Said to Be Getting Supply of the Contraband Article in Siberia and Northern Manchuria.

Petrograd, Feb. 20.—In its desperate endeavors to obtain a supply of gold, the German empire is reported to be buying contraband gold from eastern Siberia, Sakhalin and the province of Kirin, in northern Manchuria. There is a powerful organization of gold smugglers in those regions, and the German agents are well supplied with money. Up to December 1 it is said that they had succeeded in sending more than half a ton of gold to Germany.

The agitation for the abolition of the restriction against Jews is growing throughout Russia. Until recently it was confined chiefly to intellectual circles and a few municipalities. Now the zemstvo of Smolensk province has adopted unanimously a resolution to be sent to the Russian government and the czar, urging the removal of the restrictions on the ground that it is shameful for Russia to oppress and humiliate the Jews, who are fighting side by side with the rest of the Russian people against the enemy. There is hope that other zemstvos will join in the protest.

King Gets Cigars In $127,500 Box

England's Ruler Presented With 250 "Smokes" in a Container Costing the Czar a Small Fortune.

London, Feb. 20.—The Russian minister of finance, M. Bark, in the course of his visit to England, presented to King George 250 cigars in a gold box ordered in Paris a month ago at a cost said to have been $127,500, presumably a gift from the czar. The sides of the box are half an inch thick and the top and sides are ornamented with the flags of England, Russia, France, Belgium and Serbia, worked in precious stones.

When M. Bark gave the box to the king, his majesty, after thanking the Russian finance minister, turned to his private secretary, Lord Stamfordham, and said, with a smile: "How well the Stars and Stripes would look among these flags!"

Allies Planning to Gain German Trade

English and French Will Send a Commercial Expedition to South American Countries in April.

London, Feb. 20.—Aggressive steps toward capturing German trade will be made early in April, when 150 leaders of industry in England and France will proceed on a commercial mission to South America, taking with them large numbers of samples.

A French vessel has been chartered to sail from Southampton, and the trip will last 90 days. One of the party said: "It is no good going out and telling people we can give them as good articles as those made by the Germans; we want to show them the goods. Chambers of commerce and municipalities in South America will be interviewed. We have had applications from all sorts of industries for representatives to be sent on this voyage, and even had an inquiry about starting a new line of freight steamers.

"NEVER FORGET" LEAGUE

London, Feb. 20.—London has organized the "Never Forget" league. Its purpose is to aid soldiers and sailors who find themselves out of employment when the war is over. Thirty thousand leaflets of the organization have been distributed, and 15,000 persons already have promised to wear the purple ribbon of the league, binding themselves to support the men who return from the front just as loyally as they are supporting them now.

SERVIA IS PREPARING TO MEET THIRD ARMY TO ATTEMPT INVASION

Troops Gathered to Fight to Last Against 400,000 Men Massed on Border.

Nish, Servia, Feb. 20.—Still bleeding from their earlier wounds, the remnants of Servia's little war-wrecked army are gathering for a heroic defense of their native soil.

Austro-German forces numbering 400,000 are massed on the northern frontier, preparing for a third invasion of Servia. What is left of the Servian armies is determined to die, if necessary, to throw back the invaders and save the nation from foreign domination.

M. Paghitch, prime minister of Servia, and minister of foreign affairs, drew this picture today for the people of America, in an exclusive interview, granted the United Press. He asked no help from other nations, he said.

"If other nations offer help, we will gratefully accept it," said the premier, "but fighting as we are for our own liberty, we feel entitled to the sympathy and moral support of all fair-minded nations, such as I know the United States incontestably to be.

"Our entire male population, now gathered together, will die to the last man in preference to foreign domination," continued M. Paghitch. "While we are fighting primarily for our national liberty, I am justified in adding that we are also playing our role in the struggle of other nations whose liberty is imperiled in the present war.

"German domination—an Austro-German victory—would mean militarization of Europe for at least a century. We cannot think for one single moment that the democratic American people would sympathize with this tendency toward world domination. What a return to barbarism this Teutonic domination would be, one can gather from the atrocities committed in Servia by the armies of Franz Josef. They are without precedent, either in this war or in the past."

Great Britain Won't Outlaw the Airmen

Russia's Proposal to Treat as Pirates Men Who Drop Bombs on Unfortified Towns Is Rejected.

London, Feb. 20.—The announcement that Russia would treat as pirates the men who shelled unfortified towns has been received with great interest in England.

A prominent official, however, said today that Russia's action would probably not be followed here. He pointed out that aviators act under orders from the military authorities, and it would be difficult for a court to fix the responsibility for the killing by a bomb upon a certain individual.

The official opinion in England is that a court would discharge any captured airman who came to trial under the ordinary criminal procedure.

Declares Prisoners Will Starve First

Germany's 600,000 War Captives, Says the Cologne Gazette, Certain to Suffer if Food Runs Short.

Amsterdam, Feb. 20.—In a copy of the Cologne Gazette, which has been received here, is an article dealing with Great Britain's plan to cut off food supplies from Germany. He says:

"Prisoners of war must starve first. We have 600,000 prisoners, and the parts of Belgium and France we occupy contain 11,000,000 people. If it comes to starving, the subjects of hostile countries will suffer first."

End of Portuguese Republic Expected

Only the War, It Is Declared, Has Saved Popular Government Up to This Time.

Lisbon, Feb. 20. —Nothing but the European war has saved the republic of Portugal, if it can be considered to be saved.

The royalists, as well as the other opponents of the democrats, who have been in power since the revolution, have held back owing to the European situation, but, even so, political differences during the last few weeks attained extreme bitterness.

The government, which has just resigned, owed its existence to an intrigue intended to secure the elections for the democrats. Unfortunately for the government, but foreunately for the dignity of Portugal, the army found itself unable to support the interference of the democrats in military matters, and demanded the fall of the government.

This demand has now been obeyed, the change of governments being nonetheless due to a military coup d'etat because a few officers were arrested and a few days were allowed to intervene before the ministry resigned.

That the army thus asserted itself cannot be a good omen for the future of the republic, since the army is known to be not practically republican.

It is to be hoped, although experience belies the hope, that a stable government will now be formed, with which the allies of Portugal may be able to co-operate satisfactorily. Otherwise one can only echo the last words written by the editor, Nacao, before his newspaper was suppressed: "God, have pity on this unfortunate country!"

Young Duchess Is a Volunteer Prisoner

Luxemburg's Ruler Receives Kaiser Coldly, and Refuses to Quit Palace to Avoid Meeting Germans.

Geneva, Feb. 20.—Since the violation of Luxemburg by the Germans the grand duchess, who is young and pretty, and has a will of her own, has refused to leave her palace, so as not to meet German officers and men in the streets of her capital. She has been visited on several occasions by the kaiser, whom she has received courteously, but coldly.

"On the kaiser's birthday," writes a Swiss lady connected with the court," a large automobile drove up to the palace early in the morning, and a high officer, General C., explained to the duchess that he had been sent by the kaiser to ask her to visit him on his birthday.

"The duchess refused the royal command, and when the surprised officer asked for a verbatim message, the duchess said she preferred to remain with her people in her palace prison in Luxemburg. At the same time she sent kind wishes to the kaiser for his birthday."

TURKEY MAY SEEK PEACE

Bucharest, Feb. 20.—Abdul Hamid, the deposed sultan of Turkey, has been consulted by the Young Turks regarding the situation. He advised the Young Turks to conclude peace, especially if the Franco-British fleet were able to force the Dardanelles, which the ex-sultan thought quite possible. The Germans are suspicious of the Turks, and fear that they may make only feeble attempts to defend the Dardanelles, so as to have an excuse to ask for peace.

Turks Commandier Cats.

Cairo, Egypt, Feb. 20.—The Turkish authorities have issued orders for the commandeering of several hundred cats in Syria. They are needed to protect the vast stores of grain and provisions in the military depots from the incursions of mice and rats.

In Denmark, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, the percentage of illiteracy is smaller than among the whites of the United States.

'NATION IN A FRENZY' IS KIPLING'S OPINION REGARDING GERMANS

Writes Friend That He Is "Stupefied" by an "Incomprehensible Civilization."

Paris, Feb. 20.—The Temps prints two letters from Rudyard Kippling to a French friend. The first is dated October 25, and the other January 1.

The first letter refers to the gratifying unity between the French and English, and there is an expression of confidence that the new English armies are likely to prove better than the German, because, "In the hurly-burly of a war like this, even half-corrupt, incompetent democracies can do better than a great, perfect machine, all of whose details are minutely provided, but which remains a machine."

A Nation in a Frenzy.

Regarding German psychology, the writer says:

"I am stupified. I never could have imagined a nation in a frenzy. It is a race of women. To me theirs is an incomprehensible civilization. I cannot imagine what the German 'idea' is driving at, unless it be a parade march through a series of halls philosophically constructed for purposes of self-adoration.

"The Arabs used to offer the choice between Islam and the saber. The Germans have only the saber for their whole philosophy. As you say, it is the problem of the mad dog. I can only foresee the animal's death, probably from cerebral congestion."

Mr. Kipling refuses to accept the prevailing British view that the war will last three years, saying:

"I cannot believe it, because it would mean more fire than fuel to supply it. Besides, I ask how long the Germans will resist when the struggle is on their territory? Their military operations against the civilian population are simply so marked by strains of sadism that I hardly see them resisting roughish treatment in their own home. The style of their leading newspapers confirms this opinion. It is not the way a great people express ideas."

Discusses the Censorship.

The second letter contains a curious reference to the effect of the censorship. Mr. Kipling says:

"Remember that the press is a stimulant of which our two peoples have contracted the habit. Therefore, when the governments suppressed 'news' the effect was comparable to the Russian prohibition of vodka. We miss a stimulus. We read information in neutral newspapers as a drunkard under treatment buys eau de cologne or spirits of wine at a drug store. Naturally, it doesn't suit us."

Mr. Kipling renews his assurance of confidence as to the new English armies. After complimenting the recipient of the letter on the admirable behavior of the French, he refers to the non-combatants, saying:

"We are now like runners between two efforts. As we English say, 'We are suffering from stitch'."

RUSSIAN GIRL A WARRIOR

Moscow, Russia (Via Petrograd and London, Feb. 20.—Among the wounded who have arrived in Moscow from the front is Olga Krasilnikoff, a girl 19 years old. She had enlisted under a man's name and after taking part in 19 battles in Poland, was wounded in the foot. Then her deception was discovered. The cross of St. George, fourth degree, has been awarded to her.

New German War Loan.

Berlin, Feb. 20.—According to the Overseas News Agency, a second German war loan probably will be issued at the beginning of March and on favorable terms, as the condition of the money market is exceptionally good.

SHOULD ITALY GO TO WAR CONFLICT WOULD INVOLVE THE VATICAN

Government and the Pope Reach Agreement for Recall of Papal Envoys.

PRELATES TO BE NAMED

To Be Attached to the German and Austrian Missions While the War Lasts.

Rome, Feb. 20.—The law of guaranties, which regulates juridically the relations between the kingdom of Italy and the Vatican, does not contemplate the case of Italy being at war with another nation. This law guarantees the inviolability of the pope, the extraterritoriality of his residence and recognizes the pope's sovereign rights of having foreign diplomatists accredited to the holy see in Rome, and of freely corresponding by telegraph or letter with bishops and foreign governments throughout the world.

Since the occupation of Rome in 1870 the law of guaranties, although not officially accepted by four successive popes, has been observed by the Italian government, and the privileges accorded to the pontiff have never been violated or even threatened. During this period Italy has never been at war with any nation diplomatically represented at the Vatican.

War Would Involve Vatican.

Supposing, however, that Italy declared war on Germany and Austria and joined the allies in the great war, complications with the Vatican in connection with the presence in Rome of the Austrian ambassador and the Prussian and Bavarian ministers accredited to the holy see and with the pope's correspondence to and from the two countries at war with Italy would be inevitable. If the Italian government were to expel any particular diplomatists accredited to the holy see, or to extend military censorship over the pope's correspondence, then the law of guaranties would be violated, while, on the other hand, the observance of the law would be detrimental to Italy's interests, as the enemy's diplomatic representatives allowed to remain in Rome and the unlimited use of the so-called telegraphic and epistolar privileges would practically amount to sanctioning espionage

Agreement With Pope Reached

A way out of this difficulty has, accordingly, been found, and, strangely enough, a secret understanding has been reached between the aVtican and the Italian government The pope, in case Italy declares war against any power, will ask the sovereign or ruler of that power to recall provisionally his diplomatic representatives accredited to the holy see The pope's request will be based on reasons of opportunity, since the incongruity of a nation being at war with another and still allowing its representatives to reside in the enemy's country is obvious; the more so since the pope cannot insure the personal safety of such representatives

Prelates to Replace Envoys

Once the diplomatists are recalled their functions will be assumed by a prelate attached to each mission and known as the auditor of the rota As a member of the papal court this prelate enjoys immunity, and by acting as a sort of charge d'affaires, the relations between the holy see and the foreign country he represents will not be interrupted The Italian government will exceptionally allow this prelate to communicate by wire or letter with his government on the assumption that his correspondence will exclusively relate to spiritual matters The difficulty has thus been satisfactorily solved, in prevision of Italy's intervention against Germany and Austria

U. S. Ships Might Save the Britons

London Daily News Points Out Possible Effect of German Submarine Raids on English Vessels.

London, Feb. 20.—Raids by German submarines on British commerce might make a United States merchant marine valuable to Great Britain as a means of supplying food, is the opinion of the Daily News, which prints an editorial justifying President Wilson's attitude on the ship purchase bill now before congress.

The paper says this "unprecedented development of state socialism" is the only means whereby the United States can recover its place in the world of shipping. The editorial sets forth that in the present war the submarine has become a serious menace to England's food supply, and in any future war will dominate her position unless in the meantime science should discover some efective means of defense.

"Should it then threaten our shipping with destruction and ourselves with starvation," says the Daily News, "it will not be an unimportant fact that a great neutral country, possessing a mercantile marine of its own, can send its ships into our ports unmolested and unafraid."

British Censorship Causing Much Loss

The Norwegian Commerce and Navigation Gazette Complains at Unnecessary Delay in Passing Telegrams.

Christiania, Feb. 20.—The Norwegian Commerce and Navigation Gazette voices the general opinion held here when it complains of the British censorship of telegrams, which, it says, occasions difficulties and losses through delaying, stopping and even suppressing commercial telegrams.

This, it is stated, happens not only when the destination is England, but even when telegrams are intended for transatlantic addresses.

The Gazette admits that the censorship is necessary, but finds it incomprehensible that it is not carried out in a more business-like fashion. It submits for the British government's consideration the suggestion that its rigorous arrangements might be modified in the case of inoffensive neutral telegrams.