

Italy in the War During Past Year

By JOHN H. HEARLEY

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

ROME, Dec. 29.—Last of the Allies to enter the war, Italy has learned the lesson of military, naval, political, economic and social unity for successful prosecution of that war more quickly than her fellow nations in the entente.

The year 1915 was the year in which she showed how well she had learned these lessons.

Italy joined the allies in May, 1915, and her army and navy had a theoretical training for modern war. But for months after she threw her lot with the allies Italy had to suffer the hard training of the present day battle.

Before she was actually prepared, on January 1, 1916, we were like school boys, studying strange lessons—learning them well," was the way a prominent general expressed it. "But we are fighting now, fighting like scientific demons and winning, slowly, but surely."

Politically the Italian government is more firmly welded to the allied union than ever before. Germany's propaganda, which continually seeks to sow dissensions among the allies, has failed.

Alleged German agents, who try to stir Italy against England particularly, had no response. Apparently the lid has also been effectively clamped on the Italian press.

The old press's return to power during the war is improbable.

The Salandra ministry fell in early spring. In its stead arose the Boselli cabinet, said to be more acceptable to

France and England. The immediate and most radical result of the change was Italy's declaration of war against Germany. The dispatch of Italian troops to Salonika and France, as well as a more intimate ministerial contact with the people followed.

In the last twelve months three great movements stand out from Italy's land fighting. They include her counter offensive against the Austrians in the Trentino, her Isonzo offensive and her Carso drive. Superior in men and cannon, the enemy unexpectedly poured through the valleys of the Adige and Brenta last spring. They were stopped only within sight of historic Veneto and slowly pushed back along the road they came. They still hold a rocky square of 100 miles along the Trentino border, their only foothold on Italian soil.

In mid-summer the Italians concentrated their resources for an Isonzo offensive. It culminated in Corizza's fall during the first days of August. In late September preparations for a new drive in the lower Carso were completed. It began in early October and has already brought the fierce-fighting Italians within several miles of Trieste.

Winter, however, is apparently now conspiring with the Austrians against the immediate capture of the unbreached city. Almost 4,000,000 soldiers played active parts in these three theaters of war. The Austrians, it is estimated, lost almost a million in dead, wounded and prisoners. The Italian losses, though admittedly heavy, are considerably less. Moreover, Italy today holds about 3,500 square miles of Austrian territory, embracing prosperous towns and fertile valleys. Meanwhile, over the sky-scraping peaks of Carnia and of the Dolomites, the Italian arms were also slowly advancing.

Strategic positions like the mountainous Col di Lana and the Cristallo fell to King Victor's men through mining and other engineering operations.

In the processes of these captures entire enemy regiments were often jellied. Besides, Cadorna's troops have occupied Argirocastro and Delinno in Epitrus. Both are on the road to Janina, which is one of the principal towns in Albania. From Valtorta they have advanced east to Koritza, and with the French took Monastir, Macedonia's key.

Cooperating with the army, Italy's navy has bottled up the main Austrian fleet at Pola. Several times the Italians have made daring excursions against Parenzo, Durazzo, Porto Buco and Pola, bombarding military and naval works apparently with disastrous effects. They have captured or sunk several enemy transports and submarines. In addition, the battle cruiser Viribus Unitus is believed to have blown up in the harbor of Pola, following an Italian air raid. Italy's losses at sea include the Benedetto Brin, the Leonardo da Vinci, destroyed through internal explosions, and several transports and torpedo boats, said to have been sunk by the enemy.

The Italian airmen have reinforced the land sea fighting. They have been responsible for successful aerial bombardments on Trieste, Pola, Cattaro, Tomazzo and Sebenico. On the other hand, enemy aeroplanes have carried death and destruction to Verona, Padova, Gorizia, Spezia and Venice. They have been followed by Austrian subma-

lines, which have bombarded Ancona, Bari, Brindisi, Savonina and Napoleon's island of Elba. Italy's financial and economic arms against the enemy are now well organized. It is costing Italy more than \$8,000,000 a day to do her bit. Governmental decree, closing the cafes and theaters at 11:30 and stopping the trolley cars at the same hours, are a part of the economic program.

The candle power of the street lights also has been halved, and extravagant expenditures for dress, luxury and pleasure frowned upon. Living was approximately 20 per cent higher last January than it was before the war. It is about 60 per cent higher today. Clothing has increased from 40 to 70 per cent in the meantime. The reasons for the higher cost of living are not entirely traceable to the war, which has occasioned a lack of imports and exports and extensive military sequestrations. Private speculation plays a large part. The women are taking their share in wartime industries and economics. Within the last twelve months the female workers, who have replaced men, have increased from 35 to 70 per cent, it is estimated. They are found plowing the fields, gathering the harvests and making the wines or turning the lathes in munition and gun factories. There are female doctors at the front, a radical departure for "conservative Italy."

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Are You Insane? Try This Test



Here is a test just offered by the Life Extension Institute, of whose board of directors former President Taft is chairman. Tapping the great tendons below the knee pan in a normal person brings the foot upward with a slight jerk. But exaggeration of this action is present in certain brain and nervous diseases. The absence of the jerk is not always a sign of disease, but it may be the indication of spinal trouble.

Peace to Be Main Theme of Diplomats Next Year

By CARL D. GROAT
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 29.—Peace promises to be the transcendent theme of the state department the coming year, in sharp contrast to the almost warlike moments of some months last year. Intermittent peace talk took definite form in the last weeks of December, after Germany had proposed peace to the allies. From now on, it will be the enormous subject before the state department in view of the fact that this government seems destined to play a big part in whatever peace negotiations are undertaken.

Yet while peace talk passes back and forth between the chancelleries of Europe and in the granite halls and mahogany chambers of the American state department, other international matters of grave moment must be settled. These questions, serious at times almost to the point of ruptured relations, are direct heirlooms of the war, affect America as a neutral, and are destined to have their standing when international law is rewritten after the war.

In addition to possible complications with Mexico, the main issue of the last year still are pregnant with difficulties which American diplomacy is seeking to smooth out, at the same time protecting adequately and honorably the rights of America and Americans.

These issues are:

1. Submarine problems between Germany and the United States.

2. German deportation of Belgians.

3. English interference with mails.

4. English blacklisting of American firms with German interests.

5. English embargoes affecting American German's submarine warfare came to a head insofar as the United States is concerned when this government last March gained a statement that Germany had affected a change in her submarine methods and pledged to continue on a milder course.

The Lusitania case hung fire, though Germany's terms of settlement were virtually satisfactory, inasmuch as this government did not desire to finally close the matter while other submarine matters were pending.

For a time, Germany seemed to be scrupulously following her promise. In the last four months, however, there has been a feeling that she was going as far as she could without provoking new trouble with the United States. In these circumstances the state department investigated during the closing days of the year a series of sinkings, notably the Marina, Arabia, Chemung, and a dozen others. Evidence indicated Germany was overstepping at least the spirit of her pledges, and the United States proceeded to plan for her next step.

"Crises" have been numerous. The state department, however, in accordance with administration principles, has sought to settle matters through diplomacy, rather than through a break in relations. Indeed, this government did threaten to break after the Sussex torpedoing, if Germany broke her pledges, but since then the spirit has been to bring Germany up short, gain a sharp, air-tight definition of her pledges, and then insist upon adherence to them.

Prospects of peace, though still undoubtedly some months distant, will probably affect future dealings with Germany, and even more strongly influence the administration of avoiding a break with Germany.

Germany's deportation of Belgians provoked a protest from this government, but her answer gave but little satisfaction. The administration plans to watch this situation closely.

German transgressions have involved American lives. In these circumstances, the general view has been that the cases required quick, strong protest.

On the other hand, England's offenses have involved American commercial rights, not lives. These have been the subject of objections and negotiations, but differences are still extant over England's treatment of American mails, her blacklist and her embargoes. The state department will continue negotiating and protesting against infringements of United States rights by

England, though none of these cases, the department holds, involves such seriousness as to call for a threat of a breach in relations.

Mexico has been a sore spot in diplomacy the past year.

Conditions became such that American troops were sent into Mexico, and militia to the border, following Villa's raid on Columbus. The state department found many intricate problems with Carranza. Finally it brought him up short with a recital of outrages against Americans and their property, and a definite demand to know what he was going to do hereafter.

The American aim in Mexico is rehabilitation and peace without arms. But the problem before the Mexican-American commission is still grave and enormous. Villa again is making trouble, though Carranza in recent months has shown a disposition and some ability to alter dreadful conditions.

But with all the problems that have beset trouble, the idea of peace the world over has been a paramount hope—and more lately, a pregnant possibility.

Restrict Boose Importation

DENVER, Dec. 29.—One quart of whiskey and a half case of beer will be the total amount of intoxicants permitted a family in Colorado for one month's supply, if the dry forces of the state succeed in putting through a proposed amendment to the prohibition law at the coming session of the state legislature.

A permit to import intoxicants would have to be obtained from the county clerk and placed on record, under the proposed amendment.

Under the present law unlimited quantities of liquor may be imported for personal use.

Notice of Estray

Came to my place about September 1st, one blue Holstein yearling, extra dark around brisket, branded under and upper crop and slit in left ear, upper crop and under slit in right ear. GEORGE EHEHALT, Merrill Route.

Unemployment Serious

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 29.—Unemployment is so serious in Argentina today that tramps are roaming the country in small armies. Beyond seizing a number of freight trains to get from one district to another, the vagrants have committed no serious acts of violence, but anxiety is felt lest grave trouble develop in the provinces at any time. In the meantime, President Irigoyen, at his own expense, is feeding all applicants for food in Buenos Aires.

GLASS OF SALTS CLEANS KIDNEYS

IF YOUR BACK HURTS OF BLADDER BOTHERS YOU, DRINK LOTS OF WATER

When your kidneys hurt and your back feels sore, don't get scared and proceed to load your stomach with a

lot of drugs that excite the kidneys and irritate the entire urinary tract. Keep your kidneys clean like you keep your bowels clean, by flushing them with a mild, harmless salt which removes the body's urinous waste and stimulates them to their normal activity. The function of the kidneys is to filter the blood. In 24 hours they strain from it 500 grains of acid and waste, so we can readily understand the vital importance of keeping the kidneys active.

Drink lots of water—you can't drink too much; also get from any pharmacist about four ounces of Jad Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast each morning for a few days and your kidneys will act fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to clean and stimulate clogged kidneys; also to neutralize the acids in the urine so it is no longer a source of irritation, thus ending bladder weakness.

Jad Salts is inexpensive; cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia water drink which everyone should take now and then to keep their kidneys clean and active. Try this, also keep up the water drinking, and no doubt you will wonder what became of your kidney trouble and backache.—Proceed to load your stomach with a Adv.

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We want you to hear the Re-Creation

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