

RING OF STEEL
HOLDS 7,000,000
WITHOUT FOOD

American Relief Commission
Head Makes Report on
Belgians.

WHOLE COUNTRY
FACING FAMINE

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
London, Dec. 4.—H. C. Hoover, chairman of the American Commission for Relief in Belgium, has returned to London after a week's tour of inspection in that country. In the course of his report on the conditions there Mr. Hoover says:

"It is difficult to state the position of the population without appearing hysterical. Seven million people are surrounded by a ring of steel and are utterly unable to save themselves. It is impossible for the commission to even possess an opinion on the rights and wrongs which created this situation. The Germans state that the people of Belgium are normally dependent on imports for five-sixths of their subsistence. The Germans have not the slightest objection to the Belgians or any one else importing foodstuffs into Belgium. It was not the Germans who blocked the overseas supply. There is no obligation on them to feed a population which could through the normal course of trade obtain subsistence."

Fear Germans Would Profit.

"The Allies, on the other hand, contend that a free port for the importation of foodstuffs would be practically a warehouse for supplies for the Germans. Thus 7,000,000 of people are ground between two gigantic millstones. We are meeting with no obstruction by the military authorities. Not a loaf of bread nor a spoonful of salt has been taken, and stringent orders have been given that we are not to be interfered with. We meet with respect and assistance from all quarters."

After reiterating the statements as to the scarcity of food, Mr. Hoover says that while fifty days every person will be dependent upon the commission for bread. He emphasizes the fact that one of the greatest difficulties in Belgium is the stoppage of normal activities. He continues:

"An industrial country dependent upon overseas supplies is now halted up. Seventy per cent. of the people are idle. There are no telegraphs, telephones, railways or post offices working except for military purposes. The Belgians, because of military necessity, are not allowed to leave their own towns and consequently there is no communication throughout the country except by personal visits of individuals. Transportation by rail is possible only in a few directions on account of the military necessities."

The wonderful canal system is blocked in many places by the destruction of bridges and some of the canals have been allowed to run dry. It has become part of our business to get these cleared and to stimulate the subsidiary transport services of the country, so as to move food and permit the transport of coal from the mines, which will be a sore necessity this winter."

Praises Belgian People.

Mr. Hoover describes the people of Belgium as most law abiding. He says they are applying themselves with extraordinary devotion to complete the organization for the distribution of food. Mr. Hoover then adds:

"If we lacked other inspiration for exertion to save these people there is sufficient in their devoted work. Rich and poor are working night and day to perform their part. Mr. Hoover gives details of the methods of the commission. He says that those who are able to do so pay for their share of food tickets. Those who are destitute get food tickets gratis. The commission authorities contribute one cent a ticket for each person receiving food tickets and with the sum so raised pay for the foodstuffs. Thus if Americans contribute \$100,000,000 of supplies the commission will be able to buy one million tickets."

The arrangements of the commission, Mr. Hoover says, insure the proper feeding of children, who are not subjected to general rations. Adults are under constant and constant medical supervision. Mr. Hoover cites figures for Brussels as typical of other cities. He says 60,000 civilians remain in Brussels. About 25,000 adults and 35,000 babies are fed daily at the communal centers.

"It is probable," says Mr. Hoover, "that to more visible sight was ever presented than the long lines of mothers with children in their arms waiting their turns at the canteens." In some of the industrial centers, Mr. Hoover says, 60 per cent. of the population is fed at the canteens. When Mr. Hoover left there was a supply of flour at Brussels for five days and enough for ten or three days at Liege, Louvain, Charleroi, Namur and Luxembourg.

EMDEN NEAR GREAT PRIZE.

Within 100 Miles of Australian Expedition When Destroyed.

Melbourne, via London, Dec. 4.—George F. Fisher, Minister of Defense of the Commonwealth, announced in the House today that the German cruiser Emden was within 100 miles of the transport carrying the Australian expedition to Zanzibar on Monday forenoon when she was destroyed and sunk by the Australian cruiser Sydney.

"The statement is believed to indicate that the Emden was seeking to attack the transports."

EMDEN SPARED ANOTHER.

British Steamer Rescues Boston With Cargo Worth \$2,000,000.

Boston, via London, Dec. 4.—The British steamer Boston, owned by the Boston & London Steam Navigation Co., was rescued by the German cruiser Emden in the Atlantic today. The Emden was within 100 miles of the transport carrying the Australian expedition to Zanzibar on Monday forenoon when she was destroyed and sunk by the Australian cruiser Sydney.

RETURNING ON LA TOURNAIE.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
Paris, Dec. 4.—The American Relief Commission for Belgium has returned to London after a week's tour of inspection in that country. In the course of his report on the conditions there Mr. Hoover says:

KAISER WILHELM AND HIS WAR MINISTER DIRECTING GERMAN TROOP MOVEMENTS



The German Emperor is the fourth figure from the left. The War Minister, Gen. von Falkenhayn, stands at the Kaiser's left. Second from the left of the photograph is Duke Albert of Wurttemberg, who has been with the German troops in Belgium.

SAYS BRITISH SAVED ARMY AT ANTWERP

Gen. Paris Gives Details of Former Hope Expedition Into Belgium.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
London, Dec. 4.—The official Bureau issued tonight a message from Sir John French, covering a despatch from Gen. Archibald Forbes, commander of the naval brigade which was sent to Antwerp in October. Gen. French asserts that Gen. Paris handled the operations with great skill and boldness. He says: "Although the results did not include the actual saving of the fortress, the action of the force certainly delayed the enemy for a considerable time and assisted the Belgian army to withdraw in a condition that enabled it to reorganize and regain its value as a fighting force. The destruction of war material and ammunition, which but for the intervention of this force would have proved of great value to the enemy, was thus able to be carried out. The assistance which the Belgian army rendered in subsequent operations has been a valuable asset of the Allied cause, and such help must be regarded as the outcome of the intervention of Gen. Paris's force. Furthermore, the moral effect produced on the Belgian army by this necessary delay before it was too late has been of great value to their efficiency as a fighting force."

The despatch from Gen. Paris tells again the main facts already known. He says that on the afternoon of October 5 he decided that as the Belgians were unable to hold the forts any longer it was necessary, if a disaster was to be avoided, to withdraw the naval force in the darkness that night. Gen. de Gulse, the Belgian commander, was in complete agreement with him in this decision. Gen. Paris continues:

"Gen. de Gulse was most chivalrous and gallant in insisting that the roads and bridges be cleared for the passage of the British. The retirement began at 11 p. m. and was effected in difficult conditions. The enemy was in force on our immediate line of retreat and this necessitated a detour of fifteen miles to the north. All the roads were crowded with Belgian troops and refugees, herds of cattle and all kinds of vehicles, making intercommunication practically an impossibility. The British force, partly on account of fatigue and partly because of present unexplained causes, large numbers of the brigade became detached and I regret to say are interned in Holland."

Gen. Paris goes on to say that after marching all night part of the force encamped at St. Gilles and retreated without further incident. A brigade of machines which formed the rear guard also retreated without incident. The total casualties of the brigade were approximately 25 killed, 167 wounded and 2,423 missing.

GERMAN STEAMSHIP ASHORE.

Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, Interned in Norway, on Sand Bar.

Bergen, via London, Dec. 4.—The North German Lloyd steamship Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, which put into this port at the outbreak of the war and was interned, drifted onto a sand bar today in a gale and is now fast.

The Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm is a twin screw steamship of 15,000 tons and was built in 1907. She was on a cruise along the coast of Norway at the time of the beginning of the war and ran into Bergen to avoid capture. She has been at Bergen and the nearby port of Odde ever since she was formerly in the Bremen-Ny York service.

AIRSHIP SQUAD GUARDS PARIS.

Four Machines Form Patrol and Interest Promoters.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
Paris, Dec. 4.—A prototype airplane squad of four machines cruised over the capital of France this afternoon. The sky was clear all day and the weather ideal for flying. The machines were of the latest type and were much interested in the unusual spectacle of a number of machines cruising at the same time.

LEAVE FRONT TO MAKE LAWS.

200 French Deputies Will Return for Session of Parliament.

Paris, Dec. 4.—The cabinet is considering the details of arrangements by which the 200 members of the French Parliament now serving with the army can leave their posts temporarily to attend the coming extraordinary session of Parliament.

RETURNING ON LA TOURNAIE.

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Italy Will Be Ready to Enter War by Dec. 16

Continued from First Page.

The party leaders are expected to reaffirm their proposed speeches. A vote of confidence in the cabinet, it is expected, will be given today. The members in all parts of the Chamber made the most favorable comment on the Premier's position and his explicit declaration of it. They admit that intervention is not sufficient to guarantee Italy from the consequences of the appalling upheaval, which is spreading daily and the end of which cannot be foreseen, and that Italy must guard her vital interests on land and sea.

ITALY ARDENT FOR WAR.

Maeterlinck Describes Situation People Want to Join Allies.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
Paris, Dec. 4.—Maeterlinck, the Belgian author, writes to the *Figaro* stating that the police of Milan forbade the delivery of an address by him which had been advertised for La Scala. The address was to have been delivered at a performance for the benefit of the Belgians, and the Paris papers said the programme was followed out. The police prevented the delivery of the address because they were afraid there might be some grave disorders in the street afterwards. An ardent pro-Belgian crowd had assembled outside La Scala and were preparing to make a demonstration to force the government's hand and if possible bring about a declaration of war against Austria and Germany.

M. Maeterlinck says the action of the police prevented the delivery of the address because they were afraid there might be some grave disorders in the street afterwards. An ardent pro-Belgian crowd had assembled outside La Scala and were preparing to make a demonstration to force the government's hand and if possible bring about a declaration of war against Austria and Germany.

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AWAIT ITALY'S BUYERS.

Cincinnati Merchants Expect Orders Amounting to Millions.

Cincinnati, Dec. 4.—Agents of the Italian Government are expected here within a few days to close contracts for many million dollars worth of blankets, hose, underwear, underwear, laced wire cotton, railroad material, manganese, or other and other necessities of military use.

AUSTRALIA RAISES TARIFF.

Even Preference Rates on British Goods Are Advanced.

Melbourne, via London, Dec. 4.—The Australian Commonwealth has increased the preference rate on goods produced in the United Kingdom by between 5 and 10 per cent. At the same time the tariff on goods from other countries has been increased by about the same ratio and certain products which heretofore have not been in duty a penalty to most important exports of that class for the benefit of British producers.

GALE SWEEPS BRITISH ISLES.

London, Dec. 4.—Several ships are reported to be driven into the Channel and the North Sea as a result of a gale which swept over the British Isles and adjacent waters yesterday. Several lives are reported to have been lost.

WAR ISSUE No. 4

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

36 Pages Issued December 5 75 Illustrations

Free with War Issue No. 4

War Articles Contributed by Experts of National Reputation. Supplement showing drawing of a full-size 42-centimeter shell used by the German army to destroy fortifications.

Contents of "WAR ISSUE No. 4"

Interior Details of a Submarine. The Turkish Army and Navy. Construction of Shells and Bombs. Mines and Counter Mining. Strategic Moves of the War. Clearing Barbed Wire Entanglements. Building Bridges Under Fire. Rifle vs. Mortar Fire. Is Germany Self-supporting? The War Game and How It is Played.

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SHARP FORMALLY ENTERS ON DUTIES

New Ambassador Presents His Credentials to Poincare at Bordeaux.

PLEASES FRENCH CABINET

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
BORDEAUX, Dec. 4.—William Graves Sharp, the new American Ambassador to France, presented his credentials to President Poincare this morning. There were the usual formal speeches. After the ceremony, Mr. Sharp, who is staying with John W. Garrett, the American Minister to the Argentine, who is acting here temporarily for the State Department, said to the correspondent of The Sun:

"The circumstances under which I take office are somewhat unique. It is the first time in forty-four years that a foreign Ambassador has introduced himself to the French Government outside of Paris. I desire to express my keen appreciation of the courtesy and cordiality extended to me on all sides since my arrival in France, especially in the past thirty-six hours at Bordeaux. President Poincare spoke with more than official warmth of his satisfaction over the increasing cordiality of the relations between France and the United States."

A member of the Cabinet said to the correspondent:

"Mr. Sharp is in a difficult position in succeeding so popular a man as Mr. Herzog, but he has already made an excellent impression. So long as America sends us such men the relations between France and America can only be of the best."

Mr. Sharp started on his return trip to Paris to night. He was entertained at luncheon yesterday by M. Deleasse, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. His son, George, is with him. Mrs. Sharp and the rest of the family are coming from the United States in February.

R. H. Macy & Co.'s Attractions Are Their Low Prices.
Macy's
Herald Square, Broadway, 34th to 36th St.

Solid Mahogany Chair, \$21.24
As the illustration shows, this is a handsome piece of Furniture. The Chair has a winged-shaped cane back and upholstered seat, covered in assorted coverings, beautifully designed and finely finished.
SIXTH FLOOR.

Useful Holiday Gifts
WORK BENCHES \$14.89

Of course the boys at home will welcome a present of this kind, but the head of the house himself will feel a thrill of satisfaction over such a Gift. Our Work Benches are made of selected maple, fitted with rapid friction axes and steel top dog. They are the finest line of Benches on the market.

Our Special

At the price quoted has a 48-inch top, reinforced by tongue and groove end bolsters. The top recess is grooved on all four sides. Frames heavily mortised and tenoned joints, reinforced with draw bolts. Five dovetailed drawers with 3-ply bottoms.

42-in. top, with three drawers, \$11.89
42-in. top, with one drawer, \$8.63
42-in. top, without drawer, \$7.47

TOOL CABINETS, fitted with excellent tools, as low as \$4.96, as high as \$44.99

HANDY HOUSEHOLD OUTFITS As low as 74c, as high as \$4.88

POCKET KITS, in leather cases, as low as \$1.67, as high as \$2.97

FRET SAWS, foot power, 35 in. to 47 in. high, with blades, patterns, etc., as low as \$3.86, as high as \$7.34.

BASMENT, 35TH ST.

Oriental Kazakji Rugs
Very Special---\$5.94

Average Size 3 ft. x 3 ft. 4 in.

Direct from the Caucasus via Constantinople, this collection of Kazakji Rugs includes many specimens typically bold in pattern and in gorgeous blue, rose, red and ivory tones, harmoniously blended. Finest wool and pure Oriental dyes combine to give them a beauty and brilliancy most attractive.
Sold by Specialty Rug Stores at \$10.00.

FOURTH FLOOR, CENTRE.

Royal Guendje Rugs
Very Special \$19.89 to \$27.50

Average Size 3 ft. 6 in. x 4 ft. 8 in.

A collection of high grade Turkish Rugs, of exceptionally heavy quality and fine weave.

The color combinations—rose, turquoise blue, Moham-medan green and ivory—are exquisite, and the designs, with large medallion centres and wide borders, most effective. Very lustrous in finish, these are desirable not only as floor coverings, but for library table covers as well.

FOURTH FLOOR, CENTRE.

Cluny LACE CURTAINS
\$1.69, \$1.98 and \$2.24

Macy's Usual Prices, \$2.24, \$2.74 and \$2.97.

The remainder of a special purchase. A splendid assortment. 32 styles of hand-made French Cluny Laces, mounted on an excellent quality of cable net. White and Arabian. Length 2 1/2 yards.

FOURTH FLOOR, 35TH ST.

Holiday Gift Books

The following are a few selections from the immense stock of Books suitable for Christmas presents to be found in the Macy Book Department, Main Floor, 35th St., Rear:

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Mme. de Hegemann	\$2.00	Theodor Roosevelt	\$3.50
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Life in America One Hundred Years Ago	\$1.50	In Dickens's London	\$3.00
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