given that every gun in the fortress, every rifle, every cartridge should be employed in one last defiance. This was done Sunday and Sunday night. On the following morning, after engineers had vainly tried to destroy their own fortifications, the white flag was run up in the place of the storm battered and shell whipped flag of Austria. The firing ceased almost at once. In the lull messages were exchanged and the word went forth that Austria's key fort had fallen.

The main body of the Russian troops entered Przemysl this morning, according to the despatches from Petrograd. Preceded by a corps of Red Cross nurses the commander in chief and his staff, followed by the infantry, went into the town, to be greeted with joy by the few citizens who had remained. The parade of the nurses was over very soon, for there was much for them to do. There were ill or wounded in nearly every house and everywhere were the starving crying for food.

As soon as some orderly disposition could be made and the formal ceremonies arranged food was distributed to prisoners and citizens and some of them went at the rough soldier fare like wolves. Cold as it was many were in rags and tatters. Those who made the final sortie had been provided with the last of the heavy clothing and the last of the new shoes as well as the last of the biscuits.

That Przemysl was manned by 117,000 men, 2,500 officers, 93 officers of the General Staff and 9 Generals was a great surprise to men who believed they had a good idea of the size of the garrison. It was more than double the number reported at first, and inasmuch as at least 30,000 men were killed in the six months there must have been four full army corps present at one time, a terrific drain on the supplies of the city.

The effect of the fall of the city is variously discussed. The *Novoe Vremya* declares that it has decided the fate of the whole Hapsburg empire and consequently that of her ally, Germany. It adds:

"There is now nothing to prevent the advance of the Russian armies direct to Uzok and Lupkow passes."

The London newspapers characterize it as a great strategical victory. The Berlin newspapers, according to despatches, after paying a high tribute to the gallantry of the defenders, declares that while the fall is not decisive it is a "painful blow." Many of the other newspapers take the view of Vienna that it was nature, not arms, which caused the downfall. The Archduke Frederick, Field Marshal and commander in chief of the Austrian army, expresses his sentiments in a general order:

"Greetings and thanks to the unconquered heroes of Przemysl from your comrades in arms. The powers of nature but not the enemy have conquered them. They continued to fulfil their loyal duty to the extreme limit of human strength. The defence of Przemysl will remain forever a bright page in the book of honor of our army."

HOLD RAILWAY SYSTEM.

Russians Now Control All Lines in Galicia.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 23.—The Petrograd correspondent of the *Daily Mail* telegraphs that advance detachments of the Russians entered Przemysl last night and the business of collecting arms is now proceeding. He continues:

"I believe the officers will be allowed to keep their swords. The capture of the fortress, it must be admitted, is the first spectacular success of the war for the Allies. It is not surprising that the nation is proud and delighted, yet there is mingled in the triumph admiration and sympathy for the garrison compelled to surrender after a long and brave resistance. The popular mind and imagination are thrilled with the story of the last desperate sortie which will take a high place in the history of modern warfare.

"In spite of the local value of the victory and the vastness of the captures, the *Novoe Vremya* exaggerates dangerously when it compares the effect likely to be produced to that which followed the victory at Metz in the Franco-Prussian war and Port Arthur in the Russo-Japanese war. It certainly brings the end of Austrian participation more clearly in sight, but the Austrians will fight for some time to come.

"What it actually does is to free large Russian forces for operations against Cracow or the invasion of Hungary. The exact strength of this force it would be imprudent to divulge. Another very useful consequence is that the entire Galician railway system is now in Russian hands. This makes the transportation of their troops much easier.

CAPTURE SUPPLY TRAIN.

Russians Take Many Prisoners on Suwalki-Kalwarya Road.

PETROGRAD, March 23.—The capture of a German supply train and important results at the fortress town of Ossowiec, whereby the fire of the German siege guns has been slackened, are the most important events announced in the official statement of the General Staff made public to-night.

Our detachment which carried out a reconnoissance toward Memel has fallen back on our territory.

On the left of the Niemen, in the region of Mariampol, we repulsed the German attack and inflicted heavy losses.

On the Suwalki-Kalwarya road, near Sapliszki, our cavalry, profiting by the darkness, attacked a German supply column and after cutting up the escort made the survivors prisoners. We captured a great quantity of wagons loaded with food and guns.

We have achieved important results at the Ossowiec fortress. The fire of the German siege batteries has slackened greatly.

On the left of the Narew and on the left of the Vistula there is no particular change.

In the Carpathians our troops continued their successful progress from Dukla Pass to the Upper San. They have captured up to the present 3,500 prisoners, sixteen machine guns and three field guns. The attack of the enemy in the direction of the Uzok Pass has been repulsed.

TROOPS ATE LEATHER.

Prisoners Say Many at Przemysl Dropped from Exhaustion.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PETROGRAD, March 23.—Another statement, but not official, to-night says that the garrison at Przemysl originally numbered 170,000, of whom 40,000 were killed or taken prisoners in the sorties and 20,000 were wounded.

Four thousand prisoners taken at Przemysl have reached Kieff. They describe in harrowing terms the terrible condition of the garrison before the surrender. Numbers were dropping from exhaustion and all lacked strength to go on duty in the trenches. They were so hungry they chewed moss and gnawed leather equipment to keep alive.

VIENNA TELLS OF VICTORIES.

3,300 Russians Reported Captured in Uzok Pass Fighting.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

VIENNA, via Amsterdam, March 23.—The following official statement was issued to-day:

"Fighting from the Uzok Pass to the ridge of Kosmezna in the Carpathians continues. In the last two days the enemy's violent attacks were repulsed and 3,300 Russians were captured. In the fighting for a height near Vyshkov we drove the enemy from his position, capturing eight officers and 686 men."

German Commander at Dardanelles

Vice-Admiral A. Merten.

H. G. Biokusewski of 143 Palisade avenue, West Hoboken, N. J., has received a card from his friend and former schoolmate Vice-Admiral A. Merten, formerly in charge of the German naval bases at Cuxhaven, Helgoland and Neuwerk, and now in full command of the defence operations of the Dardanelles. The card, which bears the stamp of Chanak Kale, Dardanelles, reads:

"MY DEAR FRIEND—I am taking another chance and send you this card hoping that in some way it will reach you. A long letter to you was returned to me because it was sealed. My heart's wish for you and your family is that you are happy and content. I need not say that I wish I could see you once more. But that lies in God's hands.

"The thing that counts more than everything else right now, the thing that stands above all is: We must win! First comes our dear, beautiful German fatherland—our own individual welfare is a secondary consideration.

"Thank you for your kind letters, which afforded me much pleasure. Death at the hand of the enemy on the green field or in the deep sea is not hard. It's a thousand times more beautiful than a 'hero's death' as a pensioned officer on a spring mattressed bed.

"The one bitter drop is to leave mother alone! For she will be lonesome. Be good to her and love her, and God will reward you and bless you for it.

"Merry Christmas! I wonder if it will ever come again for all of us? A thousand greetings to all of you! Your loyal friend, Alling.

(Signed) Vice-Admiral MERTEN.
"Chanak Kale, Dardanelles."

DRIVE FRENCH WITH A BURNING LIQUID

Kaiser's Soldiers Gain 50 Feet at Vauquois; Repulsed at Les Eparges.

RHEIMS CIVILIANS SLAIN

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, March 23.—Quiet prevailed on the greater part of the western battle line to-day and the few engagements fought had virtually no effect on the general situation. The communiqué issued this evening by the French War Office says that near Nieuport the French destroyed several observation points and put the occupants to flight; that at Carency a German trench was captured and destroyed; that the Germans by the use of a burning liquid drove the French at Vauquois back about fifty feet and that two attacks at Les Eparges were repulsed.

New attempts by the Germans to bombard Soissons were checked by the superiority of the artillery which the Allies have assembled at that point. There was no fighting in Champagne to-day, except that the enemy shelled the advanced positions of the French troops. The night communiqué follows:

In Belgium—In the region of Nieuport our artillery has destroyed several observatories and points of support, the occupants of which we have seen fleeing.

Northwest of Arras, at Carency, we have captured a German trench, which we demolished, and made many prisoners.

At Soissons there was a fresh attempt to bombard the city, which was immediately stopped by our artillery.

In Champagne the enemy has bombarded the positions occupied by us in the last few days, but has delivered no attack.

At Vauquois, near the church, the Germans sprinkled one of our trenches with a burning liquid. Our troops at this point drew back about fifteen meters.

At Les Eparges the enemy delivered two attacks, which were stopped short by us.

At Hartmannsweiller Kopf we have dug a line of trenches and erected a blockhouse.

Fighting occurred at only two points yesterday, according to the communiqué issued this afternoon. The Germans made two violent counter attacks in the Argonne, but failed to gain. In Champagne the French advanced slightly. Bombs thrown by a German aviator killed three civilians in Rheims. The afternoon communiqué said:

The enemy bombarded Rheims dropped bombs on the town and claimed three victims among the civilians.

In the Champagne region we made slight progress to the east of Hill 196.

In the Argonne, near Ragatelle, the enemy twice delivered violent counter attacks to recapture the ground he lost on Sunday. Both counter attacks were completely repulsed.

IT'S PERMYSL NOW.

Russians Knock One Consonant Out of Przemysl.

PETROGRAD, March 23.—One of the first acts of the Russians after taking possession of the fortress of Przemysl was to change its name to the Russian form—Permysl.

Berlin Lays Surrender to Necessity of Feeding Russians.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

COPENHAGEN, March 23.—The Berlin *Vossische* declares that the surrender of Przemysl was hastened and was due mainly to the necessity of feeding the thousands of Russians taken prisoners.

GERMANS PROGRESS ON WESTERN FRONT

Berlin Announces Heavy Losses to French in Attack Near Badonviller.

OCCUPY RUSSIAN TOWN

BERLIN, via wireless to Sayville, L. I., March 23.—The repulse of a French attack north of Beausejour, in Champagne and the failure of a French attack near Badonviller, with heavy losses to the French, were reported in the official statement issued at German army headquarters to-day. The announcement was as follows:

Two French night attacks near Carency, northwest of Arras, were repulsed.

In Champagne German troops successfully blew up mines and repulsed a night attack north of Beausejour. Minor French advances near Combres, Apremont and Flirey were without success. An attack against the German positions northeast of Badonviller broke down under the German fire. The enemy sustained heavy losses.

Hostile aviators again threw several bombs on Ostend. No damage was done to the military establishments, but several Belgians were killed or wounded. Northwest of Verdun a French aviator was shot down. A French aircraft manned with two French non-commissioned officers was forced to land near Freiburg. The occupants of the aeroplane were captured.

German troops are pursuing the Russians who were driven from Memel, East Prussia. The Germans occupied the Russian town of Krottingen, across the border from Memel, and freed more than 3,000 Germans who had been dragged away from their homes by the Russians.

Attacks made by Russian troops on both sides of the Orzyc River, in Russian Poland, were repulsed.

POLAND'S LOSS IN BILLIONS.

5,000,000,000 Marks There and in Galicia, Is Estimate.

BERLIN, via wireless to Sayville, L. I., March 23.—Reports reaching here from Cracow say that the damages caused by the war in Poland and Galicia amount to 5,000,000,000 marks ($1,250,000,000). In Galicia a hundred cities and market places and not less than 6,000 villages have been damaged, while 250 have been destroyed.

More than 800,000 horses and 500,000 head of cattle with all grain and other provisions in Galicia have been taken away by the Russians. In Poland 200 cities and 9,000 villages have been wholly or partly destroyed.

VISITS AMERICAN HOSPITAL.

Czar's Representative Thanks Workers in Petrograd.

PETROGRAD, March 23.—Gen Kamoroff, representing the Emperor, visited the American Hospital here to-day, accompanied by two members of the imperial staff. He was received by George T. Marye, Jr., the American Ambassador, with his staff and by the president of the hospital.

On behalf of the Emperor the General thanked the Americans for their work with the Russian wounded. Twenty of the patients stood at attention during the ceremony and three of these were decorated for bravery in action.

To Exchange Interned Civilians.

NISH, March 23.—Austria and Servia, through the intermediation of Charles J. Vopicka, American Minister to Servia, have reached an agreement for the exchange of interned civilians, including men under 18 years of age and over 50, all women and soldiers incapable of further military service.

NEW ASSAULT NEAR FOR TURKISH FORTS

Allies' Ships Prepare for Bombardment by Adding to Ammunition.

BOUVET BRAVED DANGER

LONDON, March 23.—The Dardanelles operations have progressed little since the combined attack on March 18, according to despatches from Athens and Tenedos, but the belief here is that a new assault on the inner forts will be made within a short time. The ships of the fleet have been taking on board additional ammunition and preparations for a renewal of the bombardment are nearly finished.

The danger from mines is still great, but when the ships go into the strait again they will be provided with a better means of protection than heretofore.

Naval officials are confident the Turks will exhaust their resources through liberal use of mines. The Ottoman forces are known to be short of ammunition and the time is bound to come when their supply of mines and shells will be gone. On this account there is a possibility that Admiral de Robeck and his staff will decide to keep the operations in the present phase and not make a formidable attempt to pass the Narrows until conditions are more auspicious.

Forts Chanak Kalessi and Kilid Bahr, however, much they may have been damaged on March 18, have been repaired, for recent advances into the strait have brought forth fire from the 14 inch guns, with which the Turks repelled the last attack. The Turkish garrisons have been busy making repairs, the seaplane scouts report, and a number of mobile field batteries have also been brought from Constantinople for use against small vessels and landing forces.

A despatch from Athens to-day says that when the French battleship Bouvet went down on March 18 her officers and crew stood at the salute, crying "Vive la France!" to the end.

The despatch says that the captain of the Bouvet had been ordered to cross a dangerous mine zone and force a passage to Chanak Kalessi. The ship was five miles from her goal and had already avoided two floating mines by skilful manœuvring when she struck a third. Seven survivors from the battleship got into a small boat and passed the night in a bay on the European side of the strait. They were rescued next day by a British destroyer. The despatch adds:

"When the captain of the Gaulois saw that the Bouvet was sinking he ordered 'full steam ahead' without a moment's hesitation, but his ship had been struck seven times and he was obliged to put back, anchoring off Mavrais Island."

GALE DELAYS ATTACK.

Russian Fleet Sinks Two Vessels, Says Report.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 23.—The Tenedos correspondent of the *Times*, telegraphing under yesterday's date, says that a furious northeasterly gale which lasted for three days has impeded operations in the Dardanelles. He adds:

"The sea was very rough and most unfavorable for naval operations. It is believed the Turks were thus enabled to repair the fortifications and mount fresh guns. Ten of the allied battleships are anchored in the lee of Tenedos Island. It is impossible to tell how long the lull will last. Equinoctial gales here are said to last from three to seven days."

A *Daily Chronicle* correspondent at Kustendji sends a despatch announcing that the Russian fleet has bombarded several forts in Asia Minor and sunk a transport and a collier. He adds:

"The general impression at Constantinople is that the defences at the Dardanelles are practically beaten down and cannot resist much longer. Everybody who is able to do so is fleeing. The staffs of the German and Austrian embassies have left. The Government has been transferred to Asia and the city is deserted except for the poor and the military."

REPAIRING THE GAULOIS.

British Workmen Aiding French to Restore Battleship Quickly.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 23.—The Athens correspondent of the *Daily Mail* telegraphs the following to-night:

"The ships of the fleet at the Dardanelles are taking advantage of a lull caused by bad weather to repair damages. Many British workmen are engaged on the Gaulois, and it is said on good authority that the battleship will quickly be restored to complete fighting efficiency."

SAYS 5 SHIPS WERE SUNK

Berlin Quotes Athens Report of Losses by Allies.

BERLIN, March 23.—The Overseas News Agency gave out the following on the Dardanelles operations to-day:

"According to a detailed description of the Franco-British losses at the Dardanelles, as given by an Athens newspaper, five warships were sunk and 2,000 men killed. Four other warships were damaged badly. The commander of the British battle cruiser Inflexible was killed and the crew were drowned by the inrush of water. The French battleship Suffren was seriously damaged."

The reference to the Inflexible recalls a recent rumor that Vice-Admiral Carden, commander of the allied fleet, who had his headquarters on board that ship, was killed. The rumor was denied by the British Admiralty. Fifty-two men were killed by the explosion of a shell on board the Inflexible, but the vessel did not sink.

DACIA PURCHASE EXPLAINED.

Edward N. Breitung Gives History of Seized Ship Case.

A statement was given out last night from the office of Edward N. Breitung which gave the history of the steamship Dacia case and just how that vessel was purchased by Mr. Breitung. This statement was issued to deny the statements that have been made by Novelly & Co. and by the lawyer for that firm, Ralph J. M. Bullowa, that Mr. Breitung had made an agreement with Novelly & Co. to pay that firm $10,000.

With the statement are copies of letters and affidavits to prove that Mr. Breitung had nothing to do with Novelly & Co. and that all they were entitled to was one-half of the usual commission, amounting to $2,062.25.

The Dacia was sold directly to Edward N. Breitung by the Hamburg-American Line, and W. G. Sickel, the vice director of that company, says that the only condition under which the vessel was sold was that in case American registry should not be obtained the sale was off.

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Smoked by Royalty and the Elite of Society
Made since 1870 by VAFIADIS & CO. CAIRO EGYPT

PARIS SILENCED BY ZEPPELIN MENACE

Tense Stillness at Night More Eloquent of Danger Than Utter Blackness.

CITY COWERING IN DARK

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, March 23.—Paris is still shuddering to-day from the effects of her sleepless night from 9 o'clock last evening until 3 this morning, when the firemen sounded the "cease firing" blast, meaning that danger was over. For six hours the city cowered in utter darkness, awaiting the noise of anti-aircraft guns and the detonations of Zeppelin bombs. The reaction to-day is so great that Parisians are assuring one another that all danger from aerial raiders is over "because our brave aeroplanes have frightened them off altogether."

Despite this feeling the responsible newspapers like the *Temps*, while congratulating the authorities on warding off the night's peril, are calling for continued activity on the part of French aviators. The *Temps* points out that its demand on Sunday for more prompt pursuit of airships resulted in the Germans being kept away on their second attempt.

There was a rumor about the city last night, between the first and second alarms, that the whole affair was merely an experiment by the authorities, but this belief was speedily dissipated when the firemen again raced through the streets shrieking the "garde a vous" signal. Restrictions about lights are now more rigorous than ever before, cabs being forbidden to show a single ray. Even the striking of matches is being frowned upon.

Even more impressive than the blackness last night was the total silence which prevailed. Men spoke in whispers and the footfalls of late passersby scurrying homeward could be heard for many blocks. Old time boulevardiers gaped amazedly at the suddenness with which the main thoroughfares were emptied of their crowds. Many persons fled from the theatres, and the restaurants of course were emptied forthwith. The only places of amusement which continued business were two small music halls in the Montmartre district which are located in cellars. Their audiences were augmented by scores who were inspired by the desire to escape from the streets.

Over all these scenes swung the powerful rays of searchlights, which played now and again upon guardian aeroplanes, this time fully alive to their duty.

American Airmen Praise Pau School

Six Fliers in French Service Expect to Obtain Licenses in Month.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PAU, March 23.—The six fliers forming the American aviation squadron of the French army are in active training here and expect to obtain military licenses within a month. The Americans are delighted with the Pau school, which they consider a marvel of organization in the matter of staff and equipment, while the grounds and climate are all that could be desired. Frazier Curtis said he has made flights at Los Angeles, Marblehead, Hendon, England, and Antibes, France, but has seen nothing approaching the equipment at Pau. He added:

"Everybody is doing the utmost possible to rush our training. There is an astonishingly large number of fliers who speak English, and they help us a great deal in an unofficial way. Besides this, everybody is most friendly and very appreciative."

FLIER PURSUES BRITISH SHIP.

German Trawler Chases Dutch Vessel—Both Craft Escape.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 23.—The British steamship Sandion, owned by a firm in Cork, was pursued after leaving Holland on March 21 by an aeroplane which flung seven bombs at her. One missed by only six feet.

The Dutch steamship Mecklenburg, which left Flushing this morning for England, was chased and fired upon by a German armed steam trawler. Three shots were fired at the Mecklenburg, but the steamship put on full speed and continued her journey to London.

SWEDEN SEIZES U. S. LARD.

Ninety Wagonloads Found to Be Consigned to Germany.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 23.—The Copenhagen correspondent of the *Daily Mail* telegraphs as follows to-night:

"The customs authorities at Malmoe have seized ninety wagonloads of lard imported from the United States, which was found to be consigned to Germany, the exportation of lard from Sweden having been forbidden.

"At the same time the police stopped a large consignment of wood pulp statuettes bound for Germany, finding that the cores were of copper."

INTERNED SHIP'S DASH VAIN.

Report That Macedonia Escaped From Las Palmas Untrue.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, March 23.—The report that the Hamburg-American steamer Macedonia escaped from Las Palmas, Canary Islands, is untrue. She is still there.

The Macedonia, which was supposed to be a tender for German warships, was brought into Las Palmas by a Spanish warship shortly after the outbreak of the war and interned. Several parts of her machinery were removed. The crew replaced the missing parts and the ship made a dash to sea.

FRENCH CIVILIANS TELL OF HORRORS SUFFERED IN GERMAN PRISON PENS

10,000 Women, Children and Old Men Dragged From Their Homes.

Official Report Is Presented to Premier Viviani by Commission.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

PARIS, March 11.—A report of the sufferings of the 10,000 women, children and old men taken prisoners in France by the German invaders and sent into concentration camps in Germany at the beginning of the war has just been submitted to the Premier by the special commission which recently made a report of the outrages committed by the soldiers of the Kaiser in the territory overrun by them.

These civilian prisoners, at least those who survived the privations of the concentration camps, have been repatriated through Switzerland, and the report submitted to the Premier is based on their stories. The special commissioners, who comprise Georges Payelle, first president of the Cour des Comptes; Armand Mollard, formerly Chef du Protocole; Georges Maringer, Councillor of State, and Edmond Paillot, Councillor of the Cour de Cassation, lay stress on the fact that the persons examined told their stories under oath and in conditions which made it impossible that there should be collusion among them.

The history of their journey into Germany and the sufferings which they were forced to undergo reads more like the long, weary progress of a band of Russian exiles on their way to Siberia than a tale of happenings in France.

"About 10,000 of our compatriots," says the report, "were taken away into the enemy's territory to remain there in captivity until they were sent back into France on February 28 last. They comprised women and children, young men less than 17 and old men of more than 60. Among them were also men between the ages of 17 and 60 who, after an examination by the German medical authorities, were admitted to be of no use for military service. On their return to France through Switzerland they arrived at Annemasse and have been distributed in the southwestern districts of France.

"We have seen a large number of them and questioned about 300. All of these 300 refugees gave their testimony under oath. Their declarations, which seem to be made in the most complete sincerity, struck us by the unanimity of the stories which they told all the more convincing since we made our inquiries in twenty-eight different localities, which excludes all possibility of a possible understanding between the witnesses."

After having protested against the violation of the rights of nations committed by the Germans and thus taking away from their own country thousands of peaceful inhabitants who were not engaged in warfare the report continues:

Families Were Divided.

"What strikes us as peculiarly revolting is that the German military authorities, seizing everybody who fell into their hands, made no scruple of separating members of the same family and sending them to different camps. Young children who were in the same convoys as their mothers were separated on the way and scores of women do not even know now what has become of their husbands.

"Thus at Lubeck all the men in one of the German trains were forced to get out and sent in a different direction from that taken by the train which contained their wives. At Thiaucourt on September 3 German soldiers boarded a train and took off Mme. Andre, telling her that their commander needed some information which she could give. The woman desired to take her children with her, but the soldiers prevented this, saying that she would be permitted to return. When she appeared before the commandant he asked her no questions but simply ordered that she should be taken to Germany in another train.

"All the prisoners were forced to make a long journey on foot in the course of which they passed the nights in the open air, in a railway station or in a church. When they finally came to a railroad which was free for such transportation they were forced to make the journey in cattle cars.

Went Days Without Food.

"Most of them were forced to go for days without eating and it is beyond doubt that scores of the old people who were carried away from the north of France would have died of hunger if charitable women had not come to their succor on the way through Belgium.

"Prisoners taken from Roubaix and the environs of that town were thrown into the trains to the number of sixty to ninety in a car, where it was impossible for them to sit down, and during the journey of seventy-two hours into Germany they were allowed to eat only twice.

"In our report of December 17 we gave an account of the taking away of eighty inhabitants of Varennes in the Department of Seine-et-Marne. We told at that time at least three of these persons were put to death. That was, unfortunately, only part of the truth. Nineteen men, not seventeen, as we first said, were arrested in their homes by the Germans, who were at that time about to beat a retreat. Three of these inhabitants escaped and went back to their village. Their companions were taken away. Several witnesses at different parts of the route followed by the Germans established that at least four of the prisoners were slain because they were unable through physical exhaustion to follow the German convoy.

"Jourdaine was killed at Coulombs, Livein, 61 years old, was taken into the cemetery of Chouy and shot. This unfortunate man placed his handkerchief before his eyes so as not to see the rifles pointed at his chest. Lemli, 67 years old, was beaten to death by the butts of rifles in the same commune. Milliardet, 78 years old, was shot at Chezy-en-Orxois.

Priest Beaten to Death.

"It appears probable that the priest Fossin met the same fate. Accused of having made a signal from the top of his church steeple to a French troop, he was thrown to the ground and beaten until his soutane was in shreds. He was then left on the road to die.

"The survivors of this band received some food from the women of the French Red Cross at Soissons and the inhabitants of Chauny also came to their aid. It was from the latter commune that they were taken by train to Germany with other prisoners from the nearby districts. In the four days of the railroad journey the Germans gave them food only once and they were beaten every hour with sticks, the soldiers' fists and sword hilts.

"On September 23 two farmers of Lavigneville (Meuse) named Winbee, aged 61, and Fortin, aged 65, were arrested on the pretext that they were franctireurs. In spite of the fact that one of Winbee's feet was broken two months before in an accident and that Fortin was suffering from chronic rheumatism and was unable to walk without the aid of a cane. When the convoy started Fortin, who could not walk, was tied by a rope, the ends of which were held by two cavalrymen, and in spite of his infirmity he was forced to keep up with the horses. He fell at every instant and the soldiers struck him with their lances to make him get up and continue.

"Covered with blood, the unfortunate man begged the soldiers to kill him. Winbee, by a final appeal, was authorized to carry his unfortunate comrade to the village of Saint Maurice-Sous-les Cotes. There the Germans forced the two old men into a house, where they placed them against a wall, with their arms extended in the form of a cross, while behind them the soldiers made a great noise with their rifles as if they were about to shoot the prisoners. This was kept up for two hours.

"On September 22 all the inhabitants of the commune of Combres (Meuse) were arrested and taken to the flank of a hill, where they were stationed in a place exposed to the fire of our artillery and that of the French sharpshooters, whose trenches were visible from the point. The prisoners waved their hats and handkerchiefs to show that they were French and our artillery and infantry ceased firing. At 7 o'clock in the evening the prisoners were taken back to the village.

Exhibited to School Children.

"The men among the villagers were ordered to walk out of the ranks and were taken in cattle trucks to Zwickau. When the train passed through Frankenthal the guards opened the gates of the cars to exhibit the French captives to school children gathered in the railway station.

"Meanwhile the women of Combres and their children were held prisoners in the church of the village. They were forced to remain there a whole month, sleeping on the benches and never being allowed to leave the building. Dysentery and croup made many victims."

The report then goes on to speak of the privations which the French prisoners were forced to endure in the concentration camps in Germany.

"At Gustrow," it says, "hundreds of French women and children were forced to live in large tents which had neither heat nor lighting arrangements, and where the majority were forced to sleep on straw thrown on the wet ground. The women and young children were generally kept at Giessen, Grafenwohr, Amberg, Landau, Zwickau and Holsminden. At Zwickau they were not placed in a tent, but in a four story building, the ground floor of which was reserved for the women. On this floor and on the second there were mattresses. Those in the other stories had to sleep on the floor.

Cover Woman With Petroleum.

"At Landau a widow named Minaux, 87 years old, of Beney, Meuse, died as a result of the treatment accorded to her by the Germans. She was covered with vermin and the only method which the Germans employed to rid her of them was to cover her with petroleum after having stripped her. She fell gravely ill and died in the camp on January 20.

"Only one of the returned prisoners told us that he was allowed to sleep in a bed. He was a young man who had been wounded in the foot. He was the only civilian among 400 prisoners at Konigsbruck. He said he had nothing to complain of as regards lodging or food. Those of our compatriots who were taken to Hayreuth were also, it appears, well treated. They were fortunate enough to have fallen into the hands of a humanitarian German general who was a soldier and not a hangman.

"Discipline was different according to the place of internment. It was generally very rigorous and very slight faults were punished by a humiliating chastisement which consisted in attaching the prisoner to a post by the neck, by the hands tied behind his back and by the legs. This punishment lasted usually about two hours and the Germans took care to inflict it always during the hour for the prisoner's repast.

"In a majority of the camps the sanitary arrangements were very bad and the mortality was very high. The Germans may be said to have taken absolutely no care of this point. The German doctors contented themselves with examining those who were ill. They prescribed no remedies beyond tincture of iodine. So far as the French doctors among the prisoners were concerned, they were absolutely without medicines. Cases of bronchitis and pneumonia were particularly numerous.

Died Without Attention.

"At Holzminden many men fell to the floor absolutely exhausted. Mme. Thiriion, an old woman of Saint-Sauveur (Muerthe-et-Moselle), fell ill and remained extended on her mattress for three weeks without being able to induce the Germans, in spite of repeated requests, to bring her a doctor. The doctor came to see her on the morning she had died. About 130 civilian prisoners died at Grofenwohr.

"These examples are sufficient to give an idea of the losses which decimated the civil population in German camps. At Parchin the prisoners were forced to await for a medical examination in more than an hour under the snow and rain at the door of the infirmary. When they stamped their feet to warm themselves they were beaten by the infirmary sergeant and told to keep quiet.

"Just before being sent back to France our compatriots were shut up for several days in the casements of the fortress of Rastatt, into which air and light scarcely ever penetrated. There they lay on benches and were subjected to a very hard discipline. Every now and then the prisoners were roused by soldiers who came in on the pretext of counting them and sometimes the guards even employed dogs to round them up as one would a flock of sheep."

After having remarked on the unmistakable signs of incipient tuberculosis on the faces of scores of the girls and boys who passed several months in these detention camps the commissioners continue:

"M. Maltraire, sub-prefect of St. Julien, and M. Favre, Mayor of Annemasse, have borne testimony to the condition of physical depression from which almost all the returning prisoners suffered. One convoy of 1,300 persons was an especially sad sight. Several among them were octogenarians, and two women were at least 90 years old. Scores of them had to be taken from the train on stretchers.

"Dr. Lapine, whose testimony is all the more to be believed since he is not a Frenchman but an Argentine citizen, a doctor of the faculty of Geneva, made a thorough examination of about 500 of the returned prisoners. The greater part of these were thoroughly exhausted. Many old men were suffering from bronchitis or emphysema. Several died at Annemasse of pulmonary congestion or cardiac weakness.

All Suffered From Hunger.

"As the prisoners were all suffering from lack of food the least serious disease was likely to have grave effects. This physician found that thirty or forty women were suffering from a physiological trouble which he attributed to violent nervous attacks. He also cared for three cases of insanity.

"We cannot close this report," conclude the commissioners, "without drawing attention to the grateful feeling which all our returned compatriots have shown for the touching welcome which they received at Schaffhausen. Food, clothing, shoes and clean linen were distributed among them. Immense help was given to them by generous women who were not dismayed by the lamentable state of the refugees, but, filled with pity for the misfortunes of which they were witnesses, found in the goodness of their hearts resources of affectionate good will, which even more than material care consoles and comforts tortured souls. The gratitude which Switzerland has been able to inspire in the hearts of poor people so cruelly treated is immense. We have seen everywhere proof of this."

VON BERNSTORFF SEEKS LIGHT.

Makes Inquiry About German Consul's Case at Seattle.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, called at the State Department today and, it is understood, made inquiry regarding the case of the German Consul at Seattle, who was served with a warrant of arrest on a charge of conspiracy. He was informed that the Department of Justice is investigating the case and has not yet reported the facts to the Secretary of State.

The German Embassy protested against the action of the State authorities and contended that the consul's immunity as an officer of the German Government had been violated. It is the opinion at the State Department that no immunity was violated, but that it is a question whether the local authorities can prove their charge that the Consul was guilty of conspiracy. It is seeking to learn whether or not a section of the firm was shipping submarine sections to Canada.

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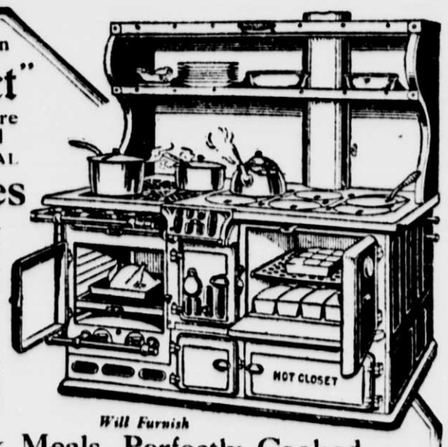

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