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Edward Lonergan

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When?

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Yes, with honor.
Pooh!
Two poohs!

What?

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Where?

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**BOHEMIANS AND SLOVAKS ISSUE
WORLD APPEAL FOR SYMPATHY**

Declare Conscription is Enforced By Hanging in Bohemian and Slav Provinces.

The following is a declaration of representative Bohemians and Slovaks demanding independence for their oppressed countries. This document is signed by Bohemian deputies who managed to escape from Austria and by leaders of Bohemian and Slovak colonies in various lands, and recites the wrongs suffered by the Czechs and Slovaks under the yoke of the Hapsburgs. Up to the outbreak of the present war the oppressed Slavs sought only a qualified independence within the limits of Austria-Hungary. But the war is to them an act of German aggression, and conscripts are driven to death, compelled to fight for a cause which they abhor. Persecution rages in the Bohemian and Slovak provinces and obedience is enforced by hangings. Austria-Hungary has become a vassal of Germany and has lost all justification to further existence.

Bohemians and Slovaks, acting together, appeal to the world for sympathy and look forward to the victory of the Allies to realize their national aspirations. This document they hope, will take the same place in Bohemian history as the Declaration of Independence occupies in American history.

We place ourselves before the political public at a moment when the retreat of the victorious Russian army is being used by opponents politically against Russia and her Allies. We take the side of the fighting Slav nations and their Allies, without regard to victory or defeat, because right is on their side. The problem of which side is right in this fatal war is a question of principle and the political side is a question which at present no honest and sincere statesman no conscientious and thinking nation can evade. Yet we are prompted to come forward by warm feelings of Slav unity. We wish to express here our sympathy to our Serbian and Russian brothers and to brother Poles who are so cruelly afflicted by this war. We believe in the final victory of Slavs and their Allies. We are convinced that this victory will be for the benefit of all Europe and all humanity. This victory will not be checked by anti-Slav treachery of the Bulgarian king and his government. We shall not lose sight of the whole situation created by the war. We shall only explain briefly, the position of the Bohemian people, the Czechs, as they call themselves.

The Bohemian nation having by its free choice called to the throne a king of the Hapsburg family entered into a union with Hungary and German Austria; but the dynasty through gradual centralization and Germanization aimed at the construction of a single state with arbitrary government, thus violating its agreement to maintain the internal and external independence of the Bohemian state. The Bohemian people exhausted by the European and Hapsburg counter-revolution were for a long time unable to withstand the oppression until the great revival came at the end of the eighteenth century, culminating in the revolution of 1848. The revolution was suppressed, rights conceded to the people of Austria, and principally to the Bohemians, were taken back and absolutism reigned, once more, until the disastrous war of 1866 compelled the granting of an imperfect constitutional recognition. Many years obtained from Vienna what they demanded, but all that the Bohemians got were solemn promises never fulfilled. The Bohemian people through their representative organs, for a long time the attitude of passive opposition, later entered the parliament and in the diets demanded their historical rights and a re-constitution of the monarchy on a federalistic basis against the German-Magyar dualism. All attempts to reach an agreement with the empire were frustrated by the rapacity and intolerance of Germans and Magyars.

The present war has intensified the antagonism between the people of Bohemia and the Austro-Hungarian empire. War was declared without the approval of the Bohemian people, their country participating in the war has laid the momentous decision before the representatives of the nation, but the Vienna government was afraid to listen to the voice of the people, because the majority would have been against the war. The Bohemian representatives would have protested most vigorously; therefore the government did not consult a single Bohemian deputy or leader before taking the momentous step.

The recent history of the Bohemian people shows plainly the great stress laid by the Bohemians upon the Slav idea. And so in this war which found the Czechs totally unprepared, just as it did every other peace-loving nation, from the very beginning in spite of the incredible terrorism with which every manifestation of the real sentiments of the people was suppressed, sympathy for Russians, Serbians and their Allies was universal. Declarations in favor of Austria were engineered and extorted by the government. Today Bohemian leaders are in jail; an imbecile government enforces obedience by hangings, and Bohemian regiments are decimated, because they spontaneously acted in accordance with the unanimous sentiment of the Bohemian people. The rights of the Bohemian language are ruthlessly violated and curtailed, as the war goes on. Military power overrides all laws and treats the Bohemian lands, and all non-German and non-Magyar districts, as conquered provinces. Bohemian publications are confiscated and suppressed for expressing their opinion, whereas our national enemies are allowed to inveigh against the Bohemian people, and Vienna and Budapest encourage pan-Germanic excesses in the spirit of Lagarde, von Hartmann, Mommsen, Treitschke.

In this extremity the Bohemian people can no longer keep silence. A foreign committee has been formed of Bohemians living beyond the boundaries of their native country, aiming to inform the world of the real facts, to interpret to the statesmen, political leaders and journalists of the Allies and the neutral states the desires of the Bohemian people, and to champion the Bohemian pro-

gram. All Bohemian political parties have up to this time been fighting for a qualified independence within the limits of Austria-Hungary. But the events of this terrible war and the reckless violence of Vienna constrain us to claim independence without regard to Austria-Hungary.

We ask for an independent Bohemian-Slovak state. The Bohemian people are now convinced that they must strike out for themselves. Austria was defeated not only by Russia, but by the little, despised Serbia, and is now a dependency of Germany. Today Berlin has galvanized this corpse, but it is the last effort. Austria-Hungary has abdicated. We have lost all confidence in its vitality; it has no longer any reason for existence. By such incapacity, by its voluntary subordination to Germany it has convinced the whole world that the former belief in the mission of Austria is out of date, forever overthrown by the facts of war. Those who defended the usefulness, even the necessity of Austria-Hungary, and at one time the great Bohemian historian and statesman Palacky was one of them, thought of Austria as a federal system of nations and lands with equal rights. But Austria-Hungary as a dualistic monster became the oppressor of all who were not Germans or Magyars. It is standing through to the end of Europe a mere tool of Germany seeking conquest in the East, a state having no destiny of its own, unable to construct an organic state composed of a number of equal, free, progressive races. The dynasty living in its traditions of absolutism manages to maintain the semblance of the former world power through the undemocratic co-operation of a sterile nobility, a bureaucracy and a body of army officers that is against every race.

No one doubts any longer that Austria-Hungary had no justification in the Sarajevo murders for its attack on Serbia, Vienna and Budapest were merely carried out their anti-Slavic plans which came out so shamelessly in the political trials of a number of Serbians. In these trials of Southern Slavs, Vienna and Budapest were not ashamed to use documents forged by the Austro-Hungarian legation. War is merely the culmination of this lying policy of Vienna and Budapest. Falsehood is now followed by wickedness and cruelty almost barbarous toward all non-German and non-Magyar peoples.

Germany shares the guilt of Austria-Hungary. It had the power and it was its duty to civilization and humanity to prevent the war; but it chose to profit by the imperialistic frivolities of the Viennese adventures.

SEMBRICH GANCELS ALL ENGAGEMENTS BECAUSE OF NERVOUS BREAKDOWN

New York, Nov. 17.—Because of ill health, Madame Marcelle Sembrich has resigned as president of the American Polish Home Committee and vice-president of the Polish Victim Relief Fund. All her professional engagements have been canceled until the beginning of January. Madame Sembrich is suffering from a nervous breakdown and a bronchial trouble.

COUNTRY SCHOOLS IS MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT SAYS FEDERAL AUTHORITY

Nashville, Nov. 17.—P. P. Claxton, federal commissioner of education, addressing the National Conference of Rural Schools here yesterday, declared that the problem of the country school was the most important of all educational problems and therefore the most important problem of statesmanship.

FAIRFIELD WOMAN IS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF ANTI-SUFFRAGISTS

(Special to The Farmer.) Fairfield, Nov. 17.—Mrs. William B. Glover of Fairfield was elected one of the vice presidents of the Connecticut Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage at its annual meeting held yesterday in Hartford. Miss Marjorie Dorman of New York was the principal speaker at a luncheon at which \$2,400 was pledged to aid in the work of the organization.

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CABRIA STAR TO APPEAR IN NOVEL FILM SENSATION

Maciste, Numidian Slave of D'Annunzio Thriller, Comes to Plaza Theatre.

When the noted producer, D'Annunzio had made arrangements to give "Cabria" to the world in film form, he was confronted with a most difficult problem. In order to give the picture that air of hysterical distinction and wonder that was brought out so forcibly in the story, he must find a character who was at once natural and super-natural and yet the part was intended to be a minor one. Maciste, the Numidian slave, was the character and in order to present the story as it was intended by the author, the man who should portray the role, must be the possessor of miraculous strength, be able to handle crowds of men as one would handle so many flies, and do it in a manner that showed he really meant it, without bringing into play "camera tricks" that are easily discovered by the average film fan.

D'Annunzio was a wonderful man as all those who have seen his world famous "Cabria" will admit, but his friends thought he had aimed a step higher than he could climb. He hunted his man for four long years but in the end, his untiring efforts were rewarded. He met Edward Pagano under most peculiar circumstances and he saw in the man all the orate strength he had dreamed of. Though Pagano was not an actor, it was not long, under D'Annunzio's able direction, before he was ready to assume the role allotted him and which later proved to be the star part in the film.

Because of his great success in "Cabria" the picture company prevailed upon him to pose for one more masterpiece which was to be written especially for him. The picture was titled "The Marvellous Maciste" and was produced at enormous expense. It has lately been released and Manager Callahan of the Plaza offered an almost fabulous sum for its presentation locally. His offer was taken and arrangements have been made to present the picture to local theatre goers the latter half of the week in addition to the vaudeville bill.

"The Marvellous Maciste" is a wonder work of amazing acts, tantalizing thrills and stirring struggles. Maciste, the "super-man," is seen fighting with scores of men and seems to enjoy the battles. The film is both comedy and tense, exciting drama and there is an element of mystery which holds while the action moves with a speed that will bring you to the edge of your seat.

NOTED WRITERS IN BOSTON.

Boston, Nov. 17.—Prominent writers gathered here today for the sessions of the National Institute of Art and Letters and the American Acadia of Arts and Letters tomorrow and Friday.

After consulting with his cabinet, President Wilson began work on his message to the Sixty-fourth Congress.

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Wash your clothes with the Thor and they will last six times as long. What a saving of expense that means! It will pay for the machine and the current—easily. Can you afford to do without the Thor when it will save you not only work but money?

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