Germans Rely on Subsea Monsters to Level Britain by Starvation and Still Conserve Their Friendship with This Country

By LOUIS DURANT EDWARDS

Copyright, 1917, by The Tribune Ass'n (New York Tribune). This is an analysis of the German attitude.

The Germans launched their submarine blockade in the firm conviction that it would not force a break between their country and our own. That

its announcement would cause a severe strain in German-American relations through a short period of crisis, they believed; but they never would have declared for their startling programme in the face of a certain contest with this country. Should the United States forsake the path of neutrality, and adopt the cause of the Entente, the German people would be crushed in spirit. This is not a statement made in chauvinistic spirit. The value of the neutrality of this country has, for Germany, a vital aspect. Just as the Germans put their faith in their wonderful new U-boats

to effect an unprecedented blockade, so they have faith that these boats will keep the peace between their country and America. They believe that the new submarine cruisers will alter the whole nature of their war upon merchant shipping. There exists no more reason for the heavily armed and armored submersible cruiser of the new fleet to sink a merchantman without warning than there exists in the case of the ordinary light cruiser for committing an offence of this sort. Briefly, the Germans think that their new weapon is powerful enough to fight at its highest efficiency, and still keep those humanitarian laws of the sea upon the observance of which this country has made unqualified insistence.

Technique is the new god of war. The largest problems of war to-day yield their solutions in the laboratories and drafting rooms. The man back home burning the midnight electric current over retorts, the drafting board and over a chaos of calculations is the man who, in the end, moves the armies, millions strong, and the battle fleets to defeat or victory. The war has been largely a progress of inventive genius, from the technique of trench construction to the ungainly wallowing forts that crawl through everything that they cannot go over.

The technical problems connected @

sempers and crew often involved the general sengers and crew often involved the guestion of life or death for these frail craft. One hit from the merchantman's guns meant destruction. These small boats were also exposed to the menace of a sudden manœuvre on the part of the intended victim to ram them. For this type of boats, the only effective campaign against England must necessarily have been a more, or less, ruthless one.

Merchant Ships Helpless

The new submersible cruiser, on the other hand, is a powerful armored ship, armed with heavy guns. It would be mandness for a defensively-armed merchant vessel to engage one of these proposed to the ments in the country. The memory of ments are no match for it. The new submersiled was built to carry on an intensified war against merchant shipping, within the letter of American limitations. Weather it will be successful in carrying out its work in the present giganite contest of blockades without resorting to the tutless tactics of the first blockade should be fairly indicated before many days of the new struggle have passed.

German naval commanders, at least, believe that this latest creation of war technique solves the sorest problem.

property.
Agitation for the renewal of the attempt to blockade England by submarine broke out bitterly in Germany in the spring of last year. It came with the pinch of shortage in most of the staple foods. This demand increased in volume and vigor all through the lean months of summer and early autumn. It formed the foundation of all criticism of the Chancellor; in fact, this question was somehow mixed up with every political controversy.

with the projected blockade of England | the Chancellor for his neglect to state were among the stiffest that the Germans have grappled with and among those most pressing for solution. With the issue of each new type of a ration card, the people increased their clamor card, the people increased their clamor card, an expressivited retaliation by sub-

card, the people increased their clamor for an unrestricted retaliation by submarine. The problem was that of establishing a vigorous, telling blockade, yet conducted in such a way as to meet America's demands that the lives of civilian travellers must be respected on the seas. The attitude of the American government, moreover, played no unimportant part in the final invention of the sub-surface warship.

Reports that reached the Germans convinced their leaders that America would not endure in the role of friendly neutrality any resumption of the so-called ruthless submarine campaign. The early type of submarines, however, were at the mercy of the guns carried by merchantmen for defensive purposes. Living up to the requirements for "visit and search" and for allowing sufficient time for the escape of passengers and crew often involved the question of life or death for these frail craft. One hit from the merchantman's guns meant destruction. These small the submarines. The demand rapidly grew to very forecful proportions.

America a Deterrent

The government held firm. Its leaders were animated by a sincere, an anxious desire not to antagonize the United States. Besides, the German yards were turning out the new type boats, with which it was hoped to be able to carry out a great counterblockade without lightly risking America's friendship. Why? America is the only neutral with prestige sufficient to exercise a persuasive pressure for peace. If America abandons her neutrality, there are other neutral nations very likely to follow her into the Enterior as a military and naval power, America stands matchless in her economic strength. America is the last neutral friend in the world worth while, which maintains an attitude of approachability toward the Central Powers.

Thus while during the excitement of the campaign for the resumption of an animal properties. The government held firm. Its leaders were animated by a sincere, an anxious desire not to antagonize the United States. Besides, the German yards were turning out the new type boats, with which it was hoped to be able to carry out a great counter-

believe that this latest creation of war good will worthless and something to technique solves the sorest problem that has arisen between their country and the United States sizes the because will worthless and something to be carelessly surrendered. As one that has arisen between their country derman put it: "The announcement of

believe that this latest creation of war technique solves the sorest problem that has arisen between their country and the United States since the beginning of hostilities. They believe that the submarine issue will never again become acute and full of danger between the two countries. It is felt that the new boat should be able to live upstrictly to the requirements of international law. It should be guilty of no sinkings of merchant vessels without warning, and without giving adequate opportunity to passengers and crews to escape. There still remains, however, the question of illegal destruction of property.

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Obedient to Emperor

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Felt Blockade Keenly

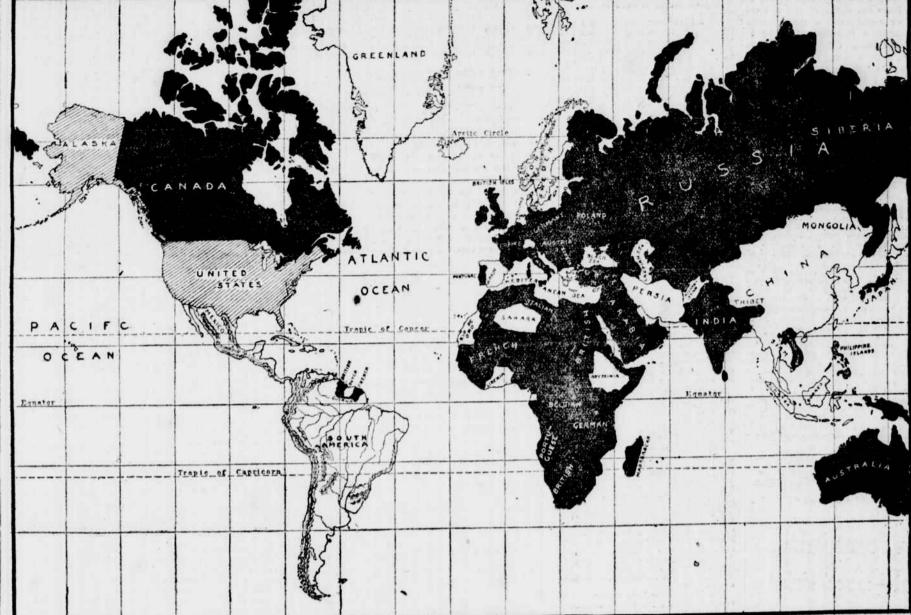
The British blockade was grinding hard upon the comforts, the endurance of the German people. It had made life in Germany a drab, dispiriting routine of "getting along without," without butter, milk, eggs, meat, clothes, shoes, soaps and innumerable other things. The naval officers urged that a free use of the submersibles would soon change all this. They asserted that it was in the power of their service, if given loose rein, to force England in a few months to sue for peace, thus sparing their people an endless weary future of sacrifice and privation.

Quite naturally the people demanded that the navy be given its opportunity. The women grumbled that their hushands were being held to an interminable service in the trenches, when a few months of determined submarine effort might bring about their release. The men grumbled over their beer and skat cards, in the streets and in their places of business. Many of the leading newspapers fostered the agitation. Pamphlets attacking the Chancellor for indecision and weakness were printed and circulated from hand to hand. The Agrarians and National Liberals, two of the strongest German parties, with the submarine question as a background, expressed dissatisfaction with There are no indications of a danger-

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U. S. Break Uncounted How the World Is Scarified by the War Disease BERLIN HOPEFUL



Black areas are belligerent.

The white are neutral and liable to contagion. The United States and its possessions are now shaded.

This area a few hours ago was white. It now is threatened with turning black

SHOULD the severance of diplomatic and Germany lead to a declaration of Po war, the Central Powers would face the mightiest, in many respects, of all their powerful opponents. The popula- Na tion of the United States, with its Go colonial possessions, is nearly as large Me as the combined population of Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Their combined area is nearly three times as large as the combined area of the Central Powers.

The entrance of these powers into the war would spread the war over three-fourths of the world's land area. The entrance of the United States alone would add to the resources of the Allies a nation whose stock of gold is as large as the combined gold reserve of France, Russia and the United Kingdom. The gold stock of the Central Powers is only about two-fifths of America's gold money.

Still more striking are the figures of this country's iron and copper production. The United States produces with all her colonies, produces only about two-fifths of this country's production of the Central Powers' production. The United States produces of the United States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppared two per production. In 1916 the United States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppared two per production. In 1916 the United States are the figures of the world combined. The Central Powers by a considerable margin. The navies of the States are the figures of the world combined. The Central Powers' production is trail Powers by production is trail Powers by production is trail Powers and the United States alone while in armed forces this country. While in armed forces this country with any of the United States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppared two per production. In 1916 the United States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppared two per production. In 1916 the United States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppare to the united States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppare to the united States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppare to the united States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppare to the united States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppare to the United States also holds the commanding position in regard to coppare to the United States also holds the commanding po

ily reduced to the standard of living of China. And this monotony is only varied by the announcements of the loss of husbands and sons, or by cold spells of fear for the safety of husbands and sons in the field.

Public Control

Public Opinion Drives Leaders

An overwhelming demand that the war be brought to an end, that this condition should not be allowed to go on and on indefinitely, is the mental state of the people that will force the German leaders to make utmost use of every weapon at their command. Despite voluminous German comment to

in time, even though there remain ample strength and energy to go on.

There remained to Germany one campaign with the definite goal of victory at its end. That was the submarine campaign. Its plan is as simple and as conclusive as was the plan of the German army when it first marched against France. England is to be starved into submission; France is to be deprived of iron ores, and Italy is to be shut off from coal. If this can be accomplished, the power of the En-

living of the United States were stead-tente is broken; German husbands will ily reduced to the standard of living of come home; German tables will again China. And this monotony is only value be spread. So runs the plan in the

of every weapon at their command. Despite voluminous German comment to the contrary, the Entente leaders are in firm control of the course of the war. The Germans have no plan of action for forcing the war to a conclusion. Each successful campaign that they undertake is followed by a lengthening of the Entente ring, with no appreciable progress toward definite victory. For Germany the war has repolved itself into the most tedious of all exertions, that of "holding on." Indefinite endurance is a test that wears down all but the stoutest hearts in time, even though there remain ample strength and energy to go on.

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| opulation | United States and Possessions. 113,000,000 3,742,000 \$230,000,000,000 \$2,900,000,000 | Allies. 770,000,000 28,947,000 \$311,250,000,000 \$4,095,000,000 | Central Powers. 161,000,000 2,248,000 \$133,750,000,000 \$1,321,000,000 | Neutrals. 647,000,000 22,318,000 † |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------------------------|
| erchant Marine Gross Tons | 8,470,000 | 28,928,000 | 5,677,000 | 9,200,000 |
| on Production Gross Tons | 39,000,000 | 19,000,000 | 15,700,000 | 1,500,000 |
| opper Production Metric Tons | 960,000 | 225,000 | 40,000 | 175,000 |
| | | | | |

†Inadequate statistics.

be spread. So runs the plan in the minds of the people, and they have an unbounded faith in its execution. In this temper they would not be denied their effort by submarine. Finally, the German leaders believe (however justified or unjustified this belief may be) that their new and powerful sub-surface warships will be able to accomplish their ambitious, stupendous task without so offending the determined, well defined policy of the United States as to bring our country in against

as to bring our country in against

MAJ. CHARLES B. HARDIN, retired from Chi-

May. Cilables B. Harden, reduced from extree day.

cage to home and spans relieved from active duty.

Capt. LOUIS J. VAN SCHAICE, infantry, detached list from present duties to Douglas, Artz, for duty with Sith Inf.

Pirat Lt. STEPINEN M. WALMSLEY, Signal Corps, report to commanding general Southern Department for March 1988. P. SUMMERALL, Field Artillier, detached list detailed member Soard of Ordnance and Fortification, vice Erigadier Gen-

eral CHARLES G. TREAT.

First Lz. EDWIN P. PARKER, Jr., from 8th
to 6th Pield Artiflery,

First Lz. PLARSON MENOHER, from 7th to
10th Cavalry, vice First Lz. GEORGE S. PATTON,
17th to 7th Cavalry,

identify the themselves of the control of the contr

pital, D. C. Pirst List ASA M. LEHMAN and SAMUEL R. NORRIS, M. R. C., from Army Medical School, Washington to Fert Slosum, for duty with recruits en reste to Southern Department. In U. S. grattlef Capt. LLOT D. R. PREDENALIA, 28th Int., and First Le. THOMAS C. SPENCER, infantry, detached list.

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Hollweg and Reichstag Trusted U. S. Would "Appreciate" Reasons

By ERNST KAHN

Berlin, Feb. 3 .- The German note t the United States and the announce ment of unrestricted submarine warfare is approved in Germany generally as an expression of the utmost reselution and the greatest sternness.

The Chancellor's argument that the German government, after vainly at tempting to end the war by agreement regards the most rigorous employment of her arms as the means of bringing peace most speedily is acknowledge as true.

Circles which formerly declined to agree with the policy of unrestricted submarine warfare now are in favor of and military leaders, whose conscientiousness is always respected, is un

Wants America's Friendship The rejection of the German peace

roposals and the American peace note

by the Entente is regarded as undoubt ed proof that the Entente does not wish peace until the Central Powers are crushed and mutilated. The submarine war, therefore, is regarded as the last and bitterest part of Germany's struggle for life against the brutal ambitions of the enemy.

The overwhelming opinion is that Germany is still disposed to-day to an equal peace and wishes to continue friendly relations with America and other neutrals, and feels that they understand her peculiar position.

The adjournment of the Ways and Means Committee of the Reichstag yesterday followed two days of detailed and serious debates over the announcement of unrestricted warfare.

Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Imperial Chancellor, and all the Secretaries of State connected with the question gave detailed explanations on various aspects of the matter. All the party leaders spoke, and, says the Overed proof that the Entente does not

ous aspects of the matter. All the party leaders spoke, and, says the Over-seas News Agency, "no stone was left unturned so that every interest of neu-trals could be examined with special

Hope U. S. Will Understand

3. United States 1,097,000
4. France 900,000
5. Japan 700,000
6. Russia 701,000
7. Italy 498,000
9. Spain 110,000
10. Argentina 100,000
11. Greece 75,000
12. Holland 72,000
13. Sweden 70,000
14. Brazil 65,000
15. Turkey 60,000
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17. Norway 25,000
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