

FREDONIA

#5

"Spring 1902"

26 July 1964

RUSSIA HIT BY INVASION AND ANARCHY

GERMAN COUNTER-ATTACK RETAKES MUNICH

It was erroneously reported in FREDONIA #4 that the new English unit had been a fleet in Edinburgh. Actually, it was an army in London. All players were informed by air mail, and the deadline for "Spring 1902" extended to 25 July.

ENGLAND: A Lon-Nor; F North Sea C A Lon-Nor; A Nor-St.P;
F Norwegian Sea holds.

FRANCE: A Par-Bur; A Bel-Ruh; A Mar-Pie; A Spa & F Wes hold.

GERMANY: F Swe-Bal; A Ber-Mun; A Kie S A Ber-Mun.

ITALY: A Tri-Tyr; A Tus-Pie; F Rom-Tyr; F Nap-Ion; F Tun S F
Rom-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: A Mun-Bur; A Vie-Boh; A Bud-Rum; A Ser-Bul;
F Gre S A Ser-Bul.

RUSSIA: No moves received.

TURKEY: A Bul-Sev; F Bla C A Bul-Sev; A Arm S A Bul-Sev;
F Con S F Bla.

Underlined moves do not succeed. The Austro-Hungarian army in Munich and the Russian fleet in Sevastopol are annihilated.

Change of address: John A. McCallum (Turkey), Meteorological Section, Suffield Experimental Station, Ralston, Alberta, Canada.

The deadline for Fall 1902 moves is SATURDAY 8 AUGUST 1964.

MUNICH: Grand Marshall Hotzendorff has ordered General Dankl's First Army into Burgundy. This precautionary campaign is the Imperial Government's answer to the unwarranted expansion of the Armee Metropolitaine.

STRASSBURG: As the First Army began its advance savage fighting flared from Mulhouse through the Vosges to the Pass of Saales. After securing the pass and anchoring his flank at St. Die and Bruyeres, Dankl, using all the advantage of surprise, forced the Moselle at St. Etienne and secured a beach-head in Remiremont. Though it is too early to comment on the success of the advance, Dankl and Archduke Joseph appear confident that the lead elements, commanded by General Kusmanek, would be in Conflans in five days.

In the interim Conrad has ordered Affenberg's Third Army

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to support Dankl. Reliable sources have hinted that the Army of the Po will move into position on Dankl's right, Mulhouse-Kruth sector, and by no later than August will be prepared to attack in strength.

VIENNA: On this day May 7, 1902, Doctor S. Freud, Minister of Education and Public Information, announced Austria-Hungary-Serbia's declaration of war on France. He stated that continued French provocation had been ignored by the Imperial Government; but when intelligence proved that the heretofore unknown refuge of the Spring Government was France, the Emperor was compelled to react to this blatant "Majestätsbeleidigung".

VIENNA (AP): The Viennese, as they gathered around the Schönbrunn Castle, appeared apprehensive over the escalation of the war. You could hear the whispered, "Germany, yes, but France?" Political unrest is not possible at the moment, especially after the failure in Budapest and the successes of the Imperial Army. Perhaps for the first time in sixty years the Habsburgs are supported by the heterogeneous population of this unique state. But this observer is worried about the ability of the Austrian economy to sustain the military machine necessary for a two-front war. If the war continues for more than three years, the economy could well fail.

GENEVA: Observers here were mystified by the apparent collapse of government in the Russian Empire. It could only be speculated that the internecine rivalry normal among different government departments had paralyzed the operations of the government. Apparently the Ministry of Information had expanded its operations to such an extent that the Ministries of War and the Navy could not function normally.

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John McCallum, whose move to a new address is announced on p. 1, writes that the move necessitates a thinning out of his library. He offers the following books to anyone who wishes them. (Paperbacks are denoted by "*"; other books are hard-cover.)

Liddell Hart, <u>Strategy</u> *	Goerlitz, <u>The German General Staff</u> *
Foley, <u>Commando Extraordinary</u> *	Rae, <u>The Strange Story of Dr. James Barry</u> (Woman army surgeon in the 19th century).
Duff, <u>Bailing with a Teaspoon</u> (The Palestine Police and predecessor organizations).	Ferrier & Cardus, <u>Kathleen Ferrier</u> *
Munthe & Uexkull, <u>The Story of Munthe</u>	Hyde, <u>The Quiet Canadian</u> (WW2 espionage)
Aldous Huxley, <u>Literature and Science</u>	Goodspeed, <u>The Conspirators</u> , a study of the coup d'etat.
Moorhead, <u>Gallipoli</u> *	LeCarré, <u>Call for the Dead</u> (spy novelette)
Howard, <u>The Franco-Prussian War</u>	
Craig, <u>The Politics of the Prussian Army, 1640-1945</u>	
<u>The Destruction of Lord Raglan</u> , * a tragedy of the Crimean War	

The books are in good condition. Anyone interested should write John at his present address, Apt. 103, 155 Dorval Avenue, Dorval, P. Q., Canada.

Press Releases #1

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"April 19th, 1902"

July 17th

Press Releases #1 is published as an adjunct to FREDONIA, the official bulletin of DIPLOMACY GAME 1964B, from John Boardman, 592 16th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., 11218. Available from him at 10 per dollar.

This issue is being published real quick like and being sent air-mail special delivery to Bruce Pelz in California. If it makes it in time it will be part of the July, 1964 SAPS mailing.

Editor of this is none other than Richard Schultz, 19159 Helen, Detroit, Michigan, 48234, U.S.A.

And now into the alternate worlds.....

* * * * *

FORST, GERMANY (Byline Jack Willings, Jr., Special Correspondent for Harper's Weekly, at Russian Headquarters)-

Yesterday General-in-command of-Army-Group-North Linevich declared that Berlin would probably fall within two weeks, three at the latest. For the first time since the Napoleonic era Russian troops would parade through the streets of Berlin.

The reason for this sudden statement came as he showed us a copy of a two-day old BREMINER BEOBACHTER, arrived here at Forst that morning.

In it the headlines and an editorial screamed about the perfidious Russian bandits who had burned the helpless town of Seehausen.

The newspaper went on in lurid detail, describing the pillage, wanton arson, rapes, murders, etc., which the Russian "bandits, deserters and Asiatic filth" had poured upon the innocent herds of peaceful citizenry in a quiet country town.

After nearly a year of repeated reports of a similar nature in every German newspaper, I'm afraid we all tended to yawn a bit. As town after town fell to the ill-named Russian "steamroller", the German press cried "Foul!" and the Russian staff dismally sent us out to another newly battered and mauled town to view for ourselves the scene. Invariably the accounts were over-exaggerated or invented, though the Russian troops did have a tendency to acquire everything that wasn't nailed down first.

Then General Linevich, speaking excellent French, pointed out that Seehausen is on the other side of the Elbe River. The western side, and not 50 miles from Hamburg.

Without answering our questions, General Linevich explained that over the past year the Russian Army had carried every point in its path by a rather costly combination of night attacks and the bayonet. In this way the line of Russian advance on a map had seemed like the movement of a sea to the west. In the process the German Army had been very severely mauled, its reserves and first-line troops disappearing into the "meatgrinder" von Hartne had mentioned once. Its massed artillery and superb organization and communications proved inadequate against a force able and willing to keep up a continuous offensive at all points in the line.

The "meatgrinder" has worked both ways, but the results can be seen to the west of Forst. There Marshal Hotzendorff has managed to cleanse the Imperial House of Habsburg and Austria from a long series of stains, starting with the Seven Years War and ending with 1866.

Marshal Hotzendorff has stated his successes would have been impossible without the Russian offensive. Considering Hotzendorff's own

2/ victories at Hof, the four battles of Ulm and the encirclement of Munich, it is considered high praise indeed.

In return General Linevich added that the recent Russian successes to the south of Berlin were due in no small part to the able assistance given Group South under Samsonov by the thousands of pieces of artillery lent him by the Austrian High Command.

He mentioned that General Fock, leader of the 11th Ukrainian division was on the road to recovery. The 11th was still in the line, a mile to the north of Luckenwalde, the town where the 11th had rescued the many prisoners after its lightning march from Meissen.

Dessau is still heavily shelled but was still considered safe.

But the real reason for this conference was to reveal to the now startled world what had occurred at Gartz March 30th.

At 2:00 in the morning specially prepared combat units, with specific obstacles in mind, had created a sudden hole in the German lines in the direction of Prenzlau. These units went forward in a No Retreat frame of mind and achieved a completely unexpected total hole in the lines within two hours. Then, under a terrific barrage against the Germans, Brusilov's long missing 8th Army moved into the hole, broke the German flanks, taking no prisoners, and enacted the next stage in this drama.

Each division in Brusilov's Army had sufficient rations for three days and ammunition and supplies for eighteen. They each then have gone forward, to cross the Elbe and meet up with the southern Group well to the west of Berlin.

They had no rear, they were to disregard their flank, and they were to leave the land utterly devastated behind them, while living off the land themselves.

Behind them, behind these sturdy Russians, came Ruzsky's Ukrainian 2nd Army. Despite desperate efforts by the German General Staff, the hole remains unplugged. Ruzsky has stated that von Moehne's Corps can be now considered to be non-existent. And that Neu-Sterlitz has fallen to a counter-attack, Straslund is under siege from land and sea and the garrison at Stettin is ready to surrender.

But contact had been lost with the swiftly moving divisions and that newspaper was the first proof that they had crossed the Elbe in force. In addition the Bernberg group have stated a lessening of pressure despite the obvious dangers of their continued advances.

Radio and other messages in great quantity have been observed to be emanating from Stendal, Magdeburg and that region west of the Elbe. Rupprecht's Reserve Corps is indicated to be moving eastward despite the destruction of the Mulhausen-Eisenach-Gotha "Iron Triangle" by the Austrian Hotzenendorff.

But most important of all, at this stage of the war, the destruction of a single regiment of the Brusilov columns would have been the occasion of great propaganda celebrations throughout the German press. Therefore the units are still reasonably intact, and are well on their way to achieving their objectives.

Starting with a modern well armed Army millions strong. Blessed with a superb communications, rail and road net, the best organized Army in Europe and biggest concentration of artillery in the world. Still Germany has her back to the wall, their defeat a blessing of the Junkers and Kaiser's policies of unlimited expansion at the sake of her neighbors and under the philosophy of the Master Race.

The Army termed Invincible has given the Deutsche Volk with a series of disasters unprecendted in history since the downfall of the great Napoleon. Today the German Fleet lies impotent, her reserves dwindled to an estimated 100,000 fighting men and her capital about to be lost. Today General Linevich predicted the fall of Berlin before the month of April is over.

Press Releases #2

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"April 22nd, 1902"

July, 1964

CRAIOVA, ROUMANIA (AP)- General Chernyshevsky, commanding the XX Corps, today stated that over the night he had succeeded in withdrawing his forces reasonably intact from the dwindling beach-head across the river in Nikopol. He cited as reasons for his withdrawal the fact that the positions were in low swampy areas dominated by Turkish artillery and outnumbered by at least three to one.

Grand Duke Mikhail, commanding the XIX Corps personally, agreed that Chernyshevsky's action was the most sensible one, "under the circumstances."

The circumstances are obvious. Commander-in-Chief Kuropatkin last week stated that ammunition was in desperate low states of reserve, and were dwindling rapidly. Add to this the colossal amount of men and material necessary to pass the Imperial German Army through the "meat-grinder" and you have a front against Turkey desperately short-handed and under-gunned.

The units that withdrew were the 117th and 118th Infantry Regiments; the 1st and 2nd Bessarabian Volunteers and the 37th (Ukrainian).

Though not stated, it is expected that the relieved regiments will be sent immediately to the Dobruja front to act as Corps and Army reserves. Since the fall of Ast-Kainjurk, the Russian positions on the Danubian Plains are considered to be in jeopardy, regardless of the incessant pressure the Austrians are putting on the Bulgarian Balkan passes.

MOSCOW (Reuters)- Today the Low House (as it is now called) of the Duma was stung into demanding the resignation of the Tsar's uncle, Grand Duke Sergius as Governor-General of the Moscow Military District. The protest came today as a surprise move by a hasty coalition of Bolsheviks, Mensheviks and Kadet Liberals. The People's Peasant and other parties centering in the south and west were absent from the session either through choice or due to being in their home Zemstvo's during the present Turkish Front crisis.

Leading the dissident radical wing of the Mensheviks, Feldstein, or Tolstoy as he prefers to be known, called for a reversal to the recent tendency of tighter police and military control of the people, the economy, the press and the means of political meetings.

The Bolsheviks, in their home territory of Moscow, rallied a crowd of thousands both outside the Kremlin and outside the Central Police Metropolitan Headquarters. The galleries were crowded with red flag waving throngs as Tolstoy spoke for a record four and a half hours. By a slim majority the vote of censure was passed and promptly passed to the High House for approval and passage to the Tsar.

To add to the troubles of Sergius, Minister of Agriculture Ermolov was closeted with Sergius for hours, apparently in an attempt to make him voluntarily resign and quiet the disturbances.

Minister of the Interior Prince Syvatopolk-Mirsky has threatened to countermand Sergius's orders and arrest him if another pogrom is attempted in Moscow or anyplace else or another newspaper was "mysteriously" bombed out. General Fock, the hero of Luckenwalde, stated that he would have wished to line up the rioters of the April 20th Krystal Night against a wall and "solve the rioting problem permanently".

It is expected that very shortly Count Witte will also speak for the Tsar and declare his intentions to support the freedom of the press, the sanctity of Jewish synagogues and the right of the Trade Unions to meet.

WARSAW (Arthur Soldiers for the AP)- The city is abuzz today following the announcement by the Official Russian News Agency that Prince S. Trubetskoy, one of the non-party members of the Lower Duma is arriving shortly in the city.

Officially the Prince is arriving to meet with the Chairman of the Polish Productions Board, Count Wielopolski. In actuality the Polska Macierz has made public knowledge that the Prince is here to meet with Count Wielopolski the Secretary to the National Democrats and vice-chairman of the Polish National Committee, along with Roman Imowski, the present unofficial head of the National Democrats.

It is considered certain that Prince Trubetskoy is attempting to persuade the separatist Poles to quiet their nationalistic ambitions for the duration of the war, lest the other small nationalities split the Empire apart during the present crisis. If Poland pulls out of the Empire, it must be suppressed if for no other reason than that the bulk of the Russian standing Army is to its west and its supply lines run across this troubled land.

Under pressure now that the Tsar is unable to pressure dissidents aside, the Prince hopes to assure Count Wielopolski and Imowski that the problems of the nationalities and wider local authority will be considered anew after the war.

No one gives the Prince much of a hope of succeeding.

ODESSA (Reuters)- Yesterday the 2nd Squadron of the 1st Black Sea Fleet sailed into the inner harbour of this city. It was led by the POTEMKIN, the battleship but late figuring in accounts of the second raid on Sinop. The Squadron was ostensibly there to protect the city from a vagu wandering Turkish squadron in the vicinity.

Considering the state of the coastal defences in the area and the state of unrest amongst the industrial unions in the city lately, the visit can probably be assumed to be for other than the official ones.

Suffering from the bloody aftermath of the second general strike called in the city in three months, the sailors and marines landed on the piers received an oddly warm welcome. Greeted with many red flags and white signs bearing the Ukrainian dove symbol, the naval personnel seem to have already created a bond between themselves and the city dwellers that will make military control of the populace unexpectedly difficult.

Commodore Licheneik emphatically denied all rumours of naval sympathy for the strikers. He hinted that if another strike is called, the Navy might be called upon to restore production and peace to the city. With, of course, the aid of the local police.

Last night a suburban police station was bombed, twice, and snipers kept firemen, rescuers and passer-bys under cover until it had burnt to the ground, taking what few survivors there might have been, with it.

CONSTANTINOPLE (Bryant North, for SPECTACLE and the INS)- To most of you Georgia is where Sherman marched through, where they have all those perches, and was the colony founded by Oglethorpe. Here it means the place whence has come the Emir Abrim Muzilherba, Emir of the White Mountain and Ambassador to the Ottoman Sultan. Most important, however, is the fact that Georgia is part of Russian Transcaucasia.

Thrown back from their early capture of Kars and Ardahan, the Russian Army is reportedly being forced back into its "home" areas, which are themselves in reported revolt.

Raising the standard of a religious war, Tiflis itself is supposed to be occupied by "Free Georgian" troops. It is obvious, however, that Turkish claims of having occupied Batumi and Akhaltsikh are founded upon the truth. If the passes are occupied or blocked by rebels, one wonders of the fate of General Radishchev's outnumbered Army.

FREDONIA

#6

"Fall 1902"

8 August 1964

RUSSIAN TROOPS ENTER BERLIN -- AS ALLIES!

TSAR CHANGES SIDES AS
ENEMIES OCCUPY HOMELAND

FRANCO-ITALIAN BATTLE LOOMS
FOR CONTROL OF MEDITERRANEAN

ENGLAND: A St.P-Mos; A Nor-St.P; F North Sea-Ska; F Norwegian
Sea-North Sea.

FRANCE: A Mar-Gas; A Par-Bur; A Spa-Por; A Ruh-Hol; F Wes-Spa.

GERMANY: A Kie-Den; F Swe S A Kie-Den; A Mun holds.

ITALY: A Tus-Pie; A Tyr S A Tus-Pie; F Tun-Wes; F Tyr S
F Tun-Wes; F Ion-Eas.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: A Boh-Gal; A Bud-Ser; A Bul
S RUSSIAN F Rum holds; F Gre S A Bul.

RUSSIA: F Rum-Bla; F Bal S A Pru-Ber; A Pru-Ber; A Sil S
GERMAN A Mun holding.

TURKEY: A Sev-Rum; A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Sev-Rum; F Con-Bul
(south coast).

Underlined moves do not succeed. The Russian fleet in Rumania is annihilated. The High Combataht Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edinburgh, Liverpool, London, Moscow, Norway,
St. Petersburg. (6)

FRANCE: Belgium, Brest, Holland, Marseilles, Paris,
Portugal, Spain. (7)

GERMANY: Denmark, Kiel, Munich, Sweden. (4)

ITALY: Naples, Rome, Trieste, Tunis, Venice. (5)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Budapest, Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia,
Vienna. (5)

RUSSIA: Berlin, Warsaw. (2)

TURKEY: Ankara, Constantinople, Rumania, Sevastopol,
Smyrna. (5)

England and France may each establish two new units. Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey may each establish one new unit. Russia must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1902" moves is SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 1964. However, if they come in earlier, FREDONIA #7 can be printed earlier, thus speeding the play along.

John McCallum, playing the Turkish pieces, reports that his move to Alberta does not become effective until mid-September. His Quebec address is valid until that time.

Accompanying this issue of FREDONIA is a promotional issue of GRAUSTARK, which is also going to other people who have been or may be interested in the play of Diplomacy.

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COMMENTS ON THE WAR

by Allan B. Calhamer, Founder of Diplomacy
and Honorary Grand Gamesmaster of the East Paterson
Diplomacy Club

SPRING 1901

England: Good. The neutralization of the English Channel is good for England and France. The emphasis is on Scandinavia, undefended, rich, and vulnerable to sea power.

France: If France wishes to attack Italy I prefer A Par-Bur, A Mar-Spa, F Bre-Mid followed by A Spa-Por, F Mid-Spa (south coast), A Bur-Mar (only if necessary), raising a fleet in Marseilles (if unoccupied), and putting two fleets in the Mediterranean by Winter 1901. If France wishes to conciliate Italy I prefer second moves of A Spa holds (or back to Marseilles if necessary) and F Mid-Por. A Mar-Pie seems premature.

Germany: Good. Germany moves to pick up the undefended Low Countries. The Fleet in Denmark will have the option of blocking Russian occupation of Sweden, a bargaining lever. A Ber-Sil may risk antagonizing two Great Powers at once, and before Germany is up to full strength. A Mun holds might be better.

Italy: Good. F Nap-Ion is better than F Nap-Tyr since both threaten Tunis but F Nap-Ion permits entry into the Balkan diplomacy as well. For Italy alone temporizing with the armies on the first move is reasonable; ordinarily she cannot win anything with them anyway, and no Power should be antagonized without reason.

Austria-Hungary: Leaving Trieste open gambles complete defeat in the opening move. I prefer A Vie-Tri, A Bud-Ser, F Tri-Alb; or A Vie-Tri, A Bud-Rum, F Tri-Alb; or A Vie-Bud, A Bud-Ser, F Tri-Ven. The latter is von Kommager's Attack, which disrupts the Italian Obrieni Attack (A Ven-Tyr, A Rom-Ven), without exposing Trieste. Both von Kommager's Attack and the game line may rub Italy the wrong way, however.

Russia: I prefer to ally with Germany or Austria-Hungary or both. The center countries are weak anyway because their rears are insecure. I prefer to restrict the stronger countries such as England with A Mos-St.P. Russia cannot win territory on this plunge anyway, and if she did it would be hard to hold. I like F Sev-Bla. In the alliance of Russia with Turkey I prefer that these powers continually stand off in the Black Sea; the use of the pieces is worth it to keep each country reasonably well protected from the other. The alliance lasts longer that way.

Turkey: A Con-Bul and F Ank-Bla of course. A Smy-Con, however, to mobilize into the Balkans more rapidly. Less good is A Smy-Arm to attack Russia. A Smy-Ank wastes time.

FALL 1901

England: Good.

France: I prefer F Mid-Por, moving a little slower but raising for Portugal two moves earlier.

Germany: I would have preferred A Kie-Mun though the position is difficult due to the failure to secure a Russian alliance.

Italy: A Ven-Tri is called for because either way it keeps Austria-Hungary from raising three new units, but Austria-Hungary

should have covered Trieste. A Rom-Tus is better than A Rom-Ven since Italy can raise at once in Venice anyway. Good.

Austria-Hungary: The alliance against Turkey is good, as Turkey is the strongest country. But Austria-Hungary against Germany is the error of plunging into the center again. This move could have gone very badly for Austria-Hungary. Better is A Tyr-Tri, even if it crossed up Russia, who could do nothing in revenge because of drastic overcommitment.

Russia: St. Petersburg now cannot be defended. Russia has made two major mistakes: attacking a Power before absorbing the undefended smaller powers, and rushing into the center.

Turkey: Good. All pieces directed against a country which is tied up on another front.

WINTER 1901

France may be too heavy on armies considering that her chief overland neighbor, Germany, is weak. I would have supposed at this point that Italy was at war with Austria-Hungary and might have raised a fleet in Marseilles to join in from the other side. For Italy, an army in Venice and cooperation with Turkey could hold Trieste, which is now lost. England can afford the army rather than the usual fleet and is sure she can land it in Norway; good raise.

SPRING 1902

England: F Norwegian Sea holds should have been F Norwegian Sea S A Lon-Nor.

France: Better is A Mar S A Par-Bur. Let Italy enter Piedmont; she can't take Marseilles even with a fleet in the Gulf of Lyons because of A Spa S A Mar. I would also have preferred A Bel-Hol; it is a supply center, after all.

Germany: F Swe-Den picks up a supply center. Sweden might be held by standoff on the following move. Abandoning Berlin for Munich is good.

Italy: This is perhaps a mysterious deal whereby Austria-Hungary paid Italy with Trieste; the two are now moving out in a hollow circle. This alliance can be extremely strong because it is hard to take in the rear; but Trieste will be a temptation for Austria-Hungary and a worry for Italy.

Austria-Hungary: Adventuring. Better recapture Trieste.

Turkey: This would have failed against the simple F Rum S F Sev. Better is A Bul-Rum, A Arm-Sev, F Bla S A Arm-Sev, F Con-Aeg.

If the alliance of Italy and Austria-Hungary holds together, it should be quite strong. England has excellent prospects. France may get into trouble as England expands. Turkey against Italy and Austria-Hungary may be a long struggle decided either by tactical slips or by intervention of a fourth Power, but intervention would be a long time coming. Only the fanciest of footwork, diplomatic as well as military, can save Germany and Russia.

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In order to follow the above outline, readers will need the first five issues of FREDONIA. They are still available for 25¢.

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BISTRITZ, TRANSYLVANIA (AP): Comte Dracula de Szekelys, renowned scientist and expert in the science of heavier-than-air manned flight, disclosed that he has discovered a means of flight that allows man to propel himself through the air without the aid of balloons. The Comte would not discuss his innovation but he did remark that for the last month recruits have been arriving here for training. Local residents state that the physical requirements are extremely demanding.

Dr. Freud commented that all information of new progress would be available to the news media consistent with the need to maintain security.

TIRANE, ALBANIA: Dr. Popovics, Governor of the Bank of Austria-Hungary-Serbia, granted Albania's request for 1,500,000 crowns. Abdi Bey Toptani, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, explained the loan will enable Albania to shoulder her share of the burden of winning the war.

On the night of Feb. 21, a reception was given by Russia's Counsel General Petraiew honoring the coronation of King Guillaume. Attended by the diplomatic corps of all the Great Powers - except Germany, whose people picketed the reception and sang "We Shall Overcome" - the gala affair was a great success. Entertainment was provided by the Vice Counsel of Great Britain (who threw a litre of slivovitz at Petraiew) and by the rumbling stomach of Vicomte de Fonteny, Ministre Resident of France.

When Comte Zichy de Zich et Vasonyke complained to Fonteny that the Vicomte's stomach interfered with the Comte's attempt to carry the melody of "Merrysidoots and Doesidoots", Fonteny proclaimed that it was not his stomach but the cheap Albanian wine. Indignant, Guillaume declared war on France; Fonteny declared war on Albania. Therefore, the need for the loan.

To totally destroy France's economy, Abdi Bey has committed all of Albania's resources to develop the perfect champagne.

The war continues to escalate.

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