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Tin, the Indispensable

Nickel and tin are the only important metals that have not been found in paying quantities among the United States mineral resources, although the fact that it is the largest consumer of tin plate in the world has stimulated the search. Tin ore in small quantities has been found in several places in the United States, but most comes from Cornwall in England, Banca in the East Indies, and Malacca in Southern Asia.

It is a metal that has played an important part in the history of the world. Combined with copper to make bronze, it was doubtless the first metal that man converted to his use. Weapons, tools and utensils made of bronze were used during a long period before iron and steel came into use. The United States now uses in the manufacture of tin cans as much tin plate as all other countries together use for all purposes. There is no substitute for tin. Price has little effect on consumption, which is not true of other metals.

The lack of tin is one of the few things that keep the United States from being self-sufficient. If they were suddenly deprived of their supply of tin and solder, they would soon have serious sanitary troubles. Tin is the only metal that sells to-day at less than the average price of two years before the war. Other metals are selling at prices from fifty-two to one hundred and eighty per cent. higher, but tin is ten per cent. lower. After the war there will probably be a decided advance.

British Have New Explosive

Which Has Nerve Wrecking Effect on the Germans

Great Aerial Activity

Neutral Countries Changing Their Attitude—Some Still to Neutrality

(Correspondence of the Globe)
Paris, June 8, 1917.—Whatever nerves the Germans have left have well nigh been irretrievably shattered by the latest explosive (aminol) so successfully used by the British in their new offensive which has so accurately been described as the greatest battle of the whole war. Nothing has yet been invented so formidable in effect to armies. Prior to the great British advance in Belgium the enemy was subjected to an incessant bombardment, one of the fiercest on record. Sir Douglas Haig informs us that he is perfectly satisfied so far with the progress made by his officers and men, and this is confirmed by the number of prisoners taken and important positions taken. Long standing obstacles have been blown to bits. The enemy is far from beaten yet, but each day reveals a further weakening on its part on land, sea and air. Now that the Russian situation has greatly improved, and that Brusiloff, whose name is a terror to Germans, has been appointed commander-in-chief, it will not be long before the Russians once more assume the offensive. Hindenburg committed a great mistake in withdrawing so many men from the East and forward them with all possible speed to the West; he erred in the belief that Russia was no longer a source of danger to either Austria or Germany. His miscalculation will cost him dear, and it is too late to make good the oversight. The Russians are rapidly coming forward again and the Entente. All see keenly that to be a fact all along; hence why they did so much, and continue to do so much, to facilitate Russia's task. With Brusiloff in supreme command, Germans and Austrians know what to expect; the Entente have good cause to feel anxious, and to dread the approaching storm from the East. They can no longer expect to fight east and

west simultaneously. The last time they attempted to repeat such tactics the result was most disastrous for them.

The past week has proved a very exciting one for all belligerents.

AIR RAIDS ON ENGLAND

In broad daylight—a favorite sport of the Germans of late—not with Zeppelins, but with Taubes and seaplanes, have not been successful. Out of eighteen machines, ten were brought down—a very good average, which ought again to prove a salutary lesson to the bold enemy. On sea the British fleet has kept the German ships busy and, as usual, the latter were only too glad to run to shelter. Naval Germany thinks that by sending out a few decoy destroyers she will succeed in drawing out the grand British fleet. Admiral Beatty is not a fool, and Germany ought to know what he is and what he can do by this time. The French and British have displayed wonderful aerial activity this week, proving to the enemy that she is not the only country that can play at that game. Zebrugge, Ostend and other vital points have been bombarded and bombed with excellent effects. More surprises are in store for the misguided Kaiser, who, by this time must feel convinced that the British, French and Italians are making things too hot for his country and Germany's allies. Last, but not least, it is satisfactory to note that Germany has been forced to make a great humiliating admission that her U-boat campaign has proved a failure. No one to-day can deny that facts speak for themselves. Germany's last hope of victory—on which she so long staked her all—has in turn been shattered. More American warships have safely crossed the Atlantic, and reached French ports this time. That will not please Wilhelm II.; he cannot shut his eyes to the importance of Brazil joining the victorious Allies, and the seizure of more than forty German ships by the great South American republic. One by one neutral countries are dropping their neutrality, and entering the war on the right side. They have had ample opportunity for seeing how disastrous any other sort of policy is. Spain, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark, and a few South American states are still clinging to neutrality. Germany is forcing each of those powers to fight, with the result that sooner or later they will have to participate in the war, by which time there will not be much for them to do. They will, nevertheless, be rewarded in proportion to their co-operation; only by participating in some form or other can countries, still neutral, expect to get a "slice of the cake." The Central Powers, Bulgaria and Turkey, are "cracking" fast. They still fight because more or less afraid of Germany, though they know very well—or ought to know by this time—that Germany can no longer guarantee their victory, nor assist them towards that end.

The War News

(St. John Globe.)

Not much longer can the Germans hold Lens, the center of the great coal region of Northern France. On Monday British raiding parties gained possession of some four hundred yards of trenches on the western outskirts of city, and on Monday a further advance was made along both banks of the River Souchet, southwest of the town. Each day something is gained, and although the Germans have prepared strong defences and are making a determined effort to hold this important point, it cannot be long now before the pressure forces them to retire. The capture of Lens will restore to France control of a region which prior to the war provided more than five million tons of coal annually and will open the way for an

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advance toward Lille. Lens, like the other cities in this region, is now a ruined city, the Germans having razed many buildings to make places for their big guns and other weapons of war. This destruction, recognized as defensible, is by no means all that the Germans have done to Lens. Following their accustomed policy, the enemy has plundered, pillaged and destroyed, so that Lens, when restored to its rightful owners, will be as thoroughly a wreck as German ingenuity and German devilry can make it; but German statesmen and soldiers will continue to talk of peace without annexations and without indemnities.
Taupe wolf is a new trimming for chinchilla or mouton.

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