

divided into five sections of \$50,000,000 each, redeemable at intervals of six years, beginning 1918.

#### Servia.

The Servian army has begun the invasion of Bosnia by crossing the River Save near Mitrovica. The Servians have also taken Semlin, near Belgrade, where the people are said to have received them with great rejoicings. While the Montenegrins expect to effect the conquest of Herzegovina from the south. The Servians are preparing to march on Budapest.

#### Russo-Germanic Conflict.

The Russian arms have been successful in Austria and have met with reverses in Prussia. The Austrian army has gone so entirely to pieces that military critics are predicting its utter destruction. Seventeen days of continuous fighting has resulted in overwhelming the Austrians in Galicia, with the capture of 180,000 men, including 800 officers, together with great quantities of munitions of war. The northern Russian army had penetrated Eastern Prussia as far as Koenigsberg, to which they laid siege, but the Germans compelled them to retire with heavy losses. Russia claims the retreat from Koenigsberg was a ruse to draw the northern German army away from the possibility of reinforcing Posen or Breslau, which they contend are exposed by the defeat of the Austrian army. Rumors of riots and panic come from Vienna, and much discontent is reported among the people.

#### England.

Troops continue to flow from Canada, Australia and India. Parliament voted unanimously on request of Premier Asquith to add another half million men of all ranks to the regular army. This brings the total to 1,854,000, an unprecedented figure for Great Britain. The regular army will comprise 1,200,000; territorials, 300,000; reserves, 214,000; Indian contingent, 70,000; Canadian first and second contingents, 40,000; Australians, 20,000, and New Zealand, 10,000. This contemplates placing 1,200,000 men in the field. Persistent though unconfirmed reports come from Belgium and England to the effect that 70,000 Russian troops have been transported from Archangel to Belgium by Britain. Sixty thousand Indian troops are about to arrive.

Premier Asquith announced in the House of Commons on the 14th that the Home Rule bill and the Welsh Disestablishment bill would be placed on the statute books this week; and said that on the morrow he would introduce a bill providing that neither law should be put in operation for one year. This declaration was further amplified by the Marquis of Crewe in the House of Lords.

He pledged the government to introduce a bill to amend the Home Rule bill, and promised that it should be dealt with before the Home Rule measure became operative. The amending bill, he said, would not necessarily exclude Ulster or any part of Ulster, as the whole temper of Ireland had changed greatly for the better since the outbreak of the war.

#### Belgium.

The Belgian army of about 80,000 men has continued the offensive, and by hard fighting has pushed the Germans back all along the line. The provinces of Antwerp, Limberg and Flanders are reported to be entirely free from the invaders, while victory at Cortenberg cut the army in two sections. It is reported that General Von Der Goltz, military governor of the Belgian territory annexed by the Germans, went to Antwerp, under safe conduct, to negotiate terms with the Belgian government. But the government positively refused to discuss any terms.

#### Mexico and the United States.

Various manifestations of the return of peace appear from day to day. Arrangements are in making to resume the exchange of the traffic between the American and Mexican railroads. It is expected that the Mexican government will soon put the railroads under the general management, known as the National Railways of Mexico.

An echo of the past comes in the announcement by Secretary McAdoo to the collectors of customs along the Mexican borders that:

In view of the restoration of peace in Mexico, collectors and other officers may, in the future, treat arms and ammunition as ordinary commercial shipments and permit them to go forward accordingly. [See current volume, page 876.]

The evacuation of Vera Cruz was the substance of an order to General Funston, issued on September 15, by President Wilson. The object of the occupation has been accomplished, the President holds, and continued presence of American troops is hurtful to peace prospects.

#### Washington Doings.

The House Ways and Means Committee on September 8, through Chairman Oscar Underwood, recommended as a war tax measure a bill putting a three per cent tax on all freight charges and an additional tax of 50 cents a barrel on beer and 20 cents a gallon on domestic wines. The bill is reported to be unsatisfactory to many of the Democratic members and reports come of com-