

An allied force composed of American, British, French, and Japanese troops, landed at Vladivostok on August 4 for the protection of that port and the valuable supplies deposited there. At the request of the British Government these troops were reinforced by a body of Canadian troops, organized for that special service, and designated the "Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force," under Major-General J. H. Elmsley. A body of Czecho-Slovak troops, formerly belonging to the Austrian army, had voluntarily surrendered to the Russians and had taken service in the Russian army under the auspices of the Kerensky Government. They were quartered near Kiev when the Germans invaded the Ukraine, but retired along the line of railway from the Don to Vladivostok, after which they co-operated effectively in the operations against the Bolshevik forces in Siberia.

#### THE WAR AT SEA, 1918.

The British Grand Fleet continued to maintain and even strengthen its effective blockade of the ports of the Central Powers. The task of detecting and hunting down hostile submarines was pursued with greater vigour and success than ever, and although the incursions of German submarines were fitfully extended to the coasts of the United States and Nova Scotia during the summer and a number of small vessels destroyed by them or by mines they had laid, these raids had not the slightest effect in delaying the continuous movement of troops and supplies across the Atlantic. A few unimportant attacks by destroyers or submarines were also made on some British and French coast towns, in which little damage was done, as the assailants after firing a few shots took to flight. Four British hospital ships returning to England with wounded were sunk with heavy loss of life, although all of them were plainly marked to indicate their character. The German High Seas Fleet was unable to put to sea for a great battle, owing to the demoralization of the seamen which had set in immediately after the battle of Jutland. A serious mutiny occurred among them on November 3, which seems to have developed into a general revolutionary movement and accelerated the signing of the armistice, by the terms of which the surrender of the most efficient ships and all the submarines of the German navy was exacted. It had, however, already ceased to exist as an effective fighting force. It was officially announced by the British Admiralty that one hundred and fifty German and seven Austrian submarines had been sunk during the war up to August, 1918. Subsequent information shows that this estimate was considerably under the truth and that the number taken or destroyed exceeded two hundred.

A formidable base for submarine activities had been established by the Germans at the ports of Zeebrugge and Ostend on the Belgian coast soon after their occupation. From its position and comparative security from attack it had become a serious menace to the sea communications of the British army in France and the seaborne commerce of the country generally. An attack on these ports on April 13 had failed with some loss. A second enterprise on a larger scale was then carefully organized and reinforced from the French navy. Its objects