

Sunday, January 21, 1917.—Bitter cold, and poor little Miss King sick. Kellogg here, for luncheon, back from northern France. This trip was successful, but he reports the Germans furious, bent on pulling down the pillars of the world in their wrath. There can be little doubt that they will resume their submarine warfare, and then—the long expected break. Balfour's¹ note shows that there is absolutely no point of incidence now for peace terms. The war will go on, seemingly forever; there is not a ray of hope. Both English and Germans seem to prepare for a big spring offensive; it may come before. They began at Verdun in February.

They say that of 1,500 men notified yesterday, 750 appeared; of these, about three hundred were deported. The sorrow in Brussels this bitter day—one of the coldest Belgium ever knew!

I have from Francqui a memo, setting forth his idea of America's duty, a subject upon which Belgians are always particularly strong. I should like to write an essay on the distaste of Europeans for Americans in general. Their resentment is just now especially strong because we are not weltering in war, and they have a grudge against us too because we are all supposed to be making enormous fortunes. They speak of dollars with as much contempt as can be expressed by mouths that water at the mere utterance of the word dollar, and don't hesitate to buy them all the time.

¹ When Asquith resigned as Prime Minister in December, 1916, and was succeeded by Lloyd George, Balfour became Foreign Minister in place of Viscount Grey. As such he signed the stiff British reply to President Wilson's request for a statement of peace terms by all the belligerents.