

Theatre of War Operations on the Russian Front



THE above map embraces the whole scene of war activities in Russia, Austria, and Germany, from the time that the conflict began in 1914 until the signing of the iniquitous treaty of Brest-Litovsk and the withdrawal of Russia from the war in the Spring of 1918. The line at the left represents the furthest advance of the Russians at any stage of the struggle, and the one at the right shows where they

were standing when the front collapsed and the treaty of peace was signed.

So tragic and overwhelming a downfall of a once mighty nation has seldom been known in the history of the world. The energy with which Russia entered the war was full of promise for the Allies and equally full of portent for the Central Powers. Her armies were huge, and the Grand Duke Nicholas, the Commander

in Chief, soon showed himself to be a strategist of the first order. The Russian armies swept like a flood over the province of East Prussia, and it seemed not beyond the pale of possibilities that the victorious Slavic march might extend as far as the gates of Berlin. This danger to Germany was dispelled, however, by the great victories of Hindenburg at Tannenberg and the Mazurian Lakes, which drove the Russians back

over the border. The Russians retrieved these disasters, however, and in the campaign that took Przemysl and threatened Cracow came perilously near to overrunning Hungary. Then came graft and corruption that deprived the armies of supplies and forced the retreat beyond Warsaw. Later followed the revolution, the accession of the Bolsheviks to power, and the betrayal of the Allies by the treaty of Brest-Litovsk.