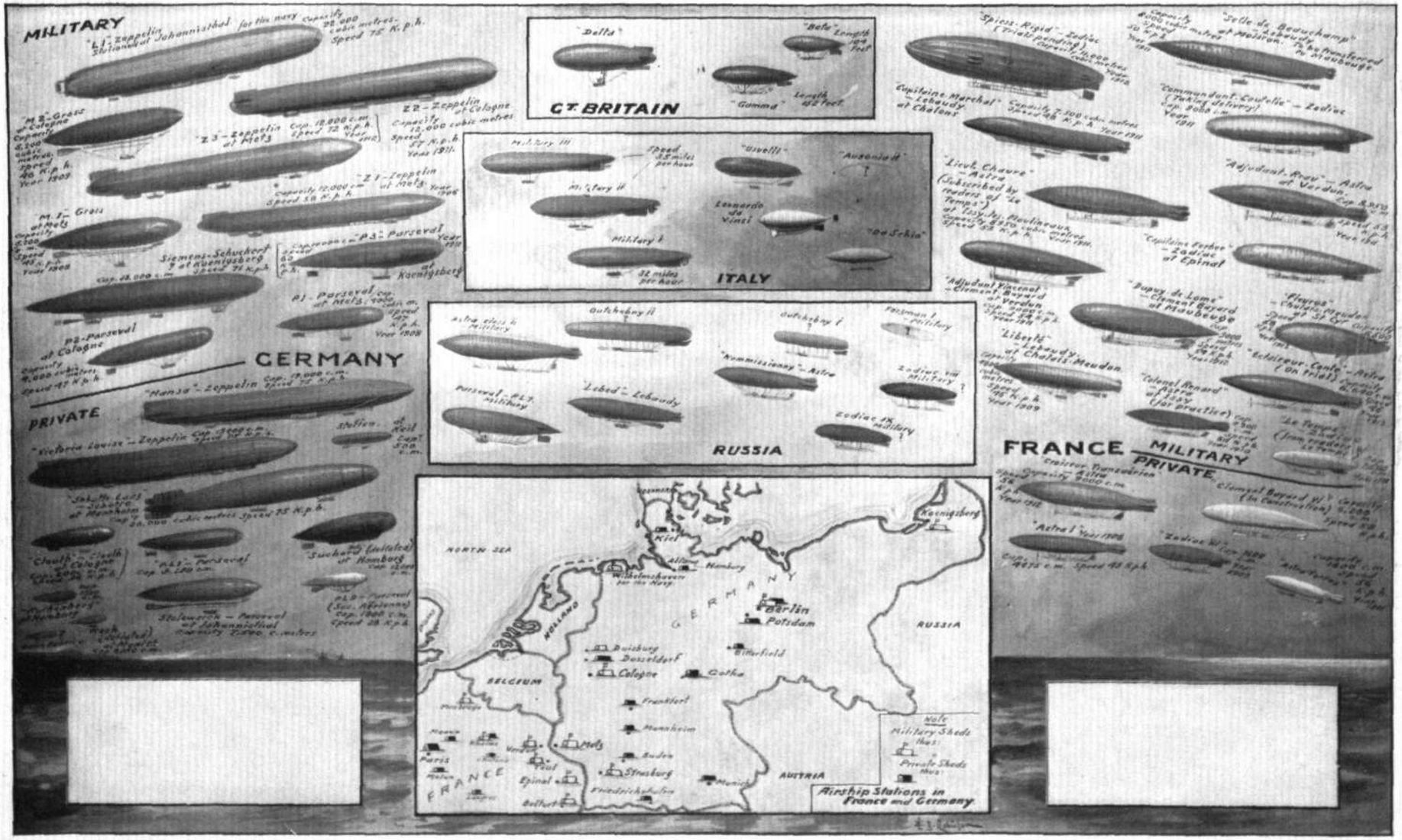
THE STRUGGLE FOR THE CONTROL OF THE AIR.

MILITARY AND NAVAL DIRIGIBLES OF THE POWERS, AND PRIVATE DIRIGIBLES WHICH MIGHT BE COMMANDEERED IN TIME OF WAR, SHOWING GERMANY AND FRANCE IN THE VAN.



From the "Illustrated London News."

The reported flights made over England by unknown airships have led the Government to construct a Bill dealing with the matter. The Act forbids the passage of aircraft over certain areas, or, if the Government should deem it necessary, over the whole of the coast-line of the United Kingdom and the territorial waters adjacent thereto. Should any aerial vessel infringe this law, the proper officers will be entitled, after giving a prescribed signal of warning, to fire at, or into, any such aircraft, and use any and every other means to prevent infraction of the law. At the second reading, Colonel Seely said: "I would point out to the House that this Bill is not aimed at the aircraft of any foreign Power, but rather at preventing mischievous persons—possibly from over-sea—from hovering over places where there are combustible stores, to the great inconvenience of the people of this country." This, of course, is stating the case somewhat mildly; for there can be no doubt that the law will be so designed that it will be perilous also for unauthorised aircraft to pass over fortifications, harbours, and naval bases. The map showing airship sheds is based on material in the *Review of Reviews* and in FLIGHT.