

### THE GREAT WAR DAY BY DAY.

(Associated Press Summary.)

#### FRIDAY'S EVENTS.

Heavy fighting for the possession of Monte San Gabriele and other important positions northeast of Gorizia, still is in progress, but the Italians are pressing home their attacks despite desperate resistance.

Although suffering heavy losses, the Austrians are battling tenaciously for the height positions. General Cadorna's latest report says that the Italian pressure is continuing decisively. The Italians have added 200 more to the number of prisoners taken in the fighting here.

On the Carso and in the region of the Hermada, the Austrians have stopped their unsuccessful attacks, but the artillery battle rages incessantly, making the whole region an inferno. Only local infantry actions for the purpose of straightening out their lines have been carried out by the Italians.

In their present drive the Italians have already taken 30,000 prisoners and the total losses of the Austrians are estimated at 120,000. Northeast of Gorizia the Austrians have been on the defensive. On the Carso, especially in the region of the Hermada, their offensive efforts have failed with great losses.

German cavalry has been engaged with Russian rear guards at Zegevoed, 40 miles east of Riga, but apparently the German advance in force has slackened. Around Friedrichstadt, about 50 miles southeast of Riga on the Dvina river, the retiring Russians have set fire to several villages.

There has been no infantry activity on a large scale on the western front. North of Frezenburg, in the Ypres region, the British have been compelled to withdraw from the positions occupied Thursday. Around Lens, the Canadians have been engaged in hard fighting with the Germans. On a part of the sector west of the Lens, German counter-attacks resulted in gains, but on the southern end of the sector the Canadians held and extended their positions. The Canadian front here now is a serious menace to the German positions along the Souchez river.

On the French front there was no infantry activity Friday. Along the Aisne, in Champagne, and on both banks of the Meuse, the opposing artilleries continue active.

German bombs dropped on military hospitals have caused the death of one officer of the medical corps of the American army. German airmen last Tuesday bombarded a group of British-American hospitals on the French coast. One officer of the American medical corps was killed and three officers were wounded severely by bombs dropped on a Harvard hospital. Five Americans were among the 16 other persons injured. One man was wounded by a bomb which fell on the hospital of the St. Louis unit.

#### SATURDAY'S EVENTS.

Russia's probable new line in Livonia, following the retreat from the Riga region under von Hindenburg's pressure, is now beginning to define itself. The retrograde movement which has been showing signs of slackening for the past day or two, now appears to have been definitely halted in some sectors at least, where the Russians are digging in and evidently preparing to make a stand if attacked.

Berlin's report reveals this state of affairs more clearly than Petrograd's. Judging from the German statements the Russian line now extends from west of Kokenhusen, on the Dvina, about 12 miles east of Friedrichstadt and approximately 55 miles southeast of Riga, northwest through the town of Bending, 12 miles southeast of Verdun, and on to the coast of the Gulf of Rnnga. Thus the front northwest of Dvinsk instead of curving sharply to the west just beyond Jacobstadt as it did to take in the Riga district, now leaves the Dvina there and continues on almost a straight line to the coast.

On both the German and Russian sides the opinion seems to prevail that the new German invasion will not proceed much farther this fall.

On the Austro-Italian front General Cadorna seems to be meeting with more desperate resistance than before in his drive toward Trieste. An Austrian report, the date of which is uncertain, claims a decided reverse for the Italians in their effort to hold the ground won in the Carso region where Austria's best troops are massed for the protection of her great seaport. The driving of the Italians from the vicinity of Monte San Gabriele, northeast of Gorizia, is also claimed.

There has been no hint of set-backs in the Italian reports of the past day or two and the Austrian statement possibly refers to ground admittedly lost temporarily by the Italians a few days ago in both these

sectors. The tone of the recent Italian statements has been confident, especially as regards the fighting in the San Gabriele region, where an Italian victory virtually was predicted. It is conceded, however, that the Italian troops are engaged in an extraordinarily severe struggle.

On the French-Belgian front Verdun seems again to be developing into the chief center of interest. Berlin at least indicates a serious effort by the French to renew their successes in this battle-scarred area. The French launched an attack on a wide front Friday night, centering their effort east of the road between Samogneux and the Beaumont-Vacherauville road, says the German war office, which claims a repulse inflicted upon General Petain. Saturday morning, however, after drum fire, the attack was renewed, the front of the drive apparently being extended as far to the east as Bezonvaux, the point on which the French right flank hinged in the recent successful offensive.

In none of the other war theatres have there been actions of wide importance.

#### SUNDAY'S WAR EVENTS.

Again the French and the Germans are engaged in extremely heavy fighting in the Verdun sector, with the Germans trying to recoup their losses of the end of last week on the right bank of the Meuse, but with General Petain's forces holding them back almost everywhere and covering the ground with their dead.

Over a front of nearly two miles the Germans Sunday morning following unsuccessful attacks Saturday night in the sector of the Bois Des Fosses and the Bois Des Caurieres, returned to the fray with renewed vigor, especially around Hill 344. At some points French trenches were captured by the Germans but they later were driven out and the French line was entirely re-established. In the fighting around the Bois Des Fosses Saturday night the Germans left nearly one thousand dead on the ground before the French positions.

At various points on the front held by Field Marshal Haig the British troops have delivered successful attacks, especially northwest of St. Quentin, where German positions on a front of several hundred yards were captured and prisoners taken. In Flanders the British guns are still roaring in the mighty bombardment that has been in progress more than a fortnight, but as yet the infantry has not been loosed for the impending dash into the enemy territory. The Berlin war office reports that northeast of St. Julien the British delivered an attack Saturday night but met with repulse. Likewise, says Berlin, strong British reconnaissances south of LaBasse canal and along the Scarpe river were without success. The British official communication makes no mention of the Forays.

There has been a considerable slackening in the German advance in Northern Russia, due in large measure to the Russians making stands at several points particularly on the front of the Pskoff Railroad line leading eastward from Riga. Here the vanguards of the Germans and Russian cavalry are engaged in fighting, the result being that the invaders are held back while the Russians are preparing defenses to make a stand. On the upper reaches of the Aa river the Germans have thrown pontoon bridges across the waterway and are gathering their forces for another onslaught. Concentrations of Germans also have been discovered in the regions of Jacobstadt and Dvinsk, probably indicating that Prince Leopold of Bavaria purposes an extensive operation against the Russians in this region.

On the lower-end of the line in Rumania the Russians and Rumanians continue to hold the Austrians and Germans for no gains, notwithstanding violent attacks which have been preceded by heavy artillery fire.

Although terrific storms have broken over the Austro-Italian front, causing the rivers to overflow their banks and turning the plains into quagmires the heavy battle for Monte San Gabriele continues unabated, with the Italians violently attacking, but with the Austrians still maintaining the position. On the Carso plateau the battle has again lessened in violence only artillery duels and patrol actions taking place.

Unofficial reports are to the effect that the new Imperial German Chancellor has informed the Reichstag main committee that Germany soon will be able to make known her peace terms. The committee of fourteen, members of the Reichstag and Bundesrath, appointed recently to confer with the government in matters of state, is expected to meet Monday to draft Germany's reply to the Pope's peace proposals.

Danial has been made by the Swedish minister to Argentina that he sent or caused to be sent by members of the legation staff any telegram from the German legation to Germany advising the sinking of Argentine ships "without trace being left" of them.

### COARSE GRAINS HOLD UP WELL.

#### Main Trend of Markets Again Upward—Unsettling in Flour Trade.

Once more, the main price trend in the coarse grains was upward, and net gains for the week were again conspicuous. Thus, the December corn delivery in Chicago during Friday's session went to \$1.14% and May reached \$1.10%, and the list ended only a small fraction under the best figures. One of the reasons for the sustained firmness in this cereal was found in the lower temperatures in parts of the belt, and in the resultant apprehensions of damage by frost. It is not clear that any serious injury has occurred, but it appears to be conceded that the weather of late has been too cool and changes in temperatures will be closely watched until the crop is finally made, notwithstanding the recent claims in some quarters that frost could do no harm. That the yield will be large is not to be doubted, but with the crop backward the assertions that it is beyond danger from frost have seemed rather curious, to say the least. With corn prices well sustained, similar conditions in oats were considered logical, especially as there were reports of further export business. The movement of the new crop is also said to have been disappointing to the bearish element, though there were indications this week of more liberal selling by the country.

Unsettling in the flour trade has appeared both at this center and elsewhere, with the question of price difficult of determination. The Northwestern Miller reports 334,000 barrels produced at Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Duluth during the latest week, against 487,000 last year, but states that an increase in output is foreshadowed.—Dun's Review.

#### A Way to Control Hog Cholera.

The Country Gentleman.

The following is from a letter from Dr. O. E. Dyson, formerly State Veterinarian of Illinois. No comment of mine could add to its forceful logic, and I pass it on to the readers of The Country Gentleman:

"If the swine-breeding industry throughout the State is to receive the consideration or protection to which it is entitled, laws based upon the grounds of public policy should be enacted providing for the enforcement of modern sanitary regulations under which hog cholera could be practically controlled.

"With co-operation on the part of swine breeders it would be an easy matter for the State livestock sanitary force, properly organized throughout the various countries, to control hog cholera at a minimum expense by preventing the unrestricted spread of the disease from common sources of infection. In fact, if a small percentage of the economic losses now unnecessarily sustained by swine breeders could be expended for the purpose of preventing the spread of hog cholera, the losses resulting from the disease could in a short time be reduced to a minimum.

"So long as the individual owner or breeder is required to contend with the ravages of a disease against which he has no practical means of protection, other than the expenditure of large sums of money for serum and virus, commercial establishments engaged in the production of such protective agents will continue to do a lucrative business at the expense of the producer, and incidentally the consumer, of pork products.

"If the contagion of hog cholera presented itself in tangible form by the way of the front gate and asked for admittance before invading the premises, swine breeders as individuals would then be in a position to cope with the disease. On the contrary, however, the contagion of hog cholera always presents itself in insidious form. It is no respecter of persons nor has it any regard for geographical lines, and the extent of its ravages is limited only by the number of susceptible hogs becoming exposed to infection, or by effective sanitary and other preventive measures, so seldom employed.

"The successful control of hog cholera depends entirely upon suppressing initial outbreaks. This can be accomplished only by restricting the movement of cholera-infected hogs. Community organization of swine breeders for the purpose of co-operating with State livestock sanitary officials, close quarantine and treatment of cholera-infected and exposed hogs and disinfection of infected premises, all of which should be done at the expense of the State through funds derived by levying a tax of five cents a head upon all hogs produced within the State, will get results.

"By this means a fund of approximately \$200,000 could be secured which would be sufficient to provide for the production and administration of serum, or serum and virus, to practically all infected herds in the various counties throughout the State wherein swine breeders are willing to

co-operate with the State livestock sanitary forces in the control of hog cholera.

"The benefits to be derived under such a plan would produce results ten times greater than the same amount expended by individual effort on the part of swine breeders, and would serve as a protection that it would certainly be impossible to secure by any other means.

"Under ordinary conditions I doubt if it would be necessary to spend more than \$100,000 per annum to control hog cholera in Illinois completely, after perfecting the proposed plan of co-operation between swine breeders and State livestock sanitary officials."

#### FURTHER DECLINE IN COTTON.

Option List Near 20c. Basis. Break In Stocks a Factor.

From the best figures of early August, the break in cotton futures has widened to over \$30 a bale, and still many people are saying that the end of the readjustment is yet to be witnessed. Considering the rapidity and extent of the decline, it is not strange that some bearish operators now act with more caution, but that prices are destined to go even lower is the expectation in most quarters. Once more, the market gave way sharply on Tuesday and in the next session the yielding went further, with October deliveries at 20.76c., December 20.57c., January 20.45c., and March 20.68c., and immediately after the holidays the local spot quotations fell to within 5 points of the 22c. basis. Following this, middling recovered 15 points and the contract list from 67 to 75 points, but renewed depression developed in the late trading and on Friday the bottom levels of the week were established, with futures down close to the 20c. basis and spots at 21.35c.

It was in Texas and in Wall Street that the chief reasons for Tuesday's loss of \$5 a bale and more were to be found. The severe break in stocks naturally affected cotton adversely, and as one writer put it: "Wall Street and the West simply threw the cotton overboard if they were long of it." Everybody, in fact, seemed to be selling, and the reports of heavy rains in parts of Texas where there had been a prolonged dry period accentuated the pressure, though some people insisted that rain come too late to do much good, if any. But while prospects in Texas admittedly are not all they might be, the crop elsewhere appears to be doing well and many in the trade now talk of supplies exceeding requirements this season, instead of falling below them. When the crop movement gets fully under way, and it has increased sufficiently in the eastern belt to compel attention, traders with bearish views look for the weight of the bales to make an even deeper impression on prices.—Dun's Review, 8th.

#### To Translate Tenants Into Landlords.

The first and dearest work of this administration will be a supreme effort to translate the tenants of the State into landlords. Here and now, in the presence of God and these witnesses, I consecrate myself and all the power and prestige of my office, to this endeavor. I shall neither rest, nor permit the State to rest, until every honest, industrious, frugal man who tills the soil has a decent chance to own it. I am driven to this undertaking by the tyranny of a conviction that such a work is essential not alone to the wholesome development, but to the enduring safety of the State.

The wizard of the Northwest, James J. Hill, once said: "Land without population is a wilderness, population with land is a mob." Today 84 per cent of the people of Mexico are without land, and riots and revolutions result, as the sparks fly upward. There can be no government for the many while the lands belong to the few, for the history of the world teaches that the men who own the land will rule it.

The homesteader is the most conservative, and at the same time the most militant force in our civilization. He is a lover of peace, a pioneer in progress, but a very demon in battle when danger threatens the land he loves. The small farm, owned by the man who tills it, is the best plant bed in the world in which to grow a patriot. Such a condition brings wealth to the soil, and health to the souls of men. On such a farm it is possible to produce anything from two pecks of potatoes to the hill to a President of the United States. Every consideration of progress and safety urges us to employ all wise and just measures to get our lands into the hands of the many and forestall that most destructive of all monopolies of the soil.—Extract from the Inaugural Address of Gov. Thomas W. Bickett, January 11, 1917.

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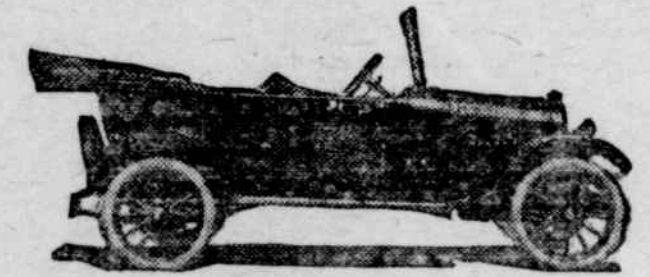
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