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RUSSIAN LOSSES IN PRISONERS APPROXIMATELY 70,000 IN NINE DAYS

ounded Since De-
red in Propor-
Number.

Better Let the Gospel Alone If They Don't Want to Frighten People, Says Bishop.

King Ferdinand's Forces Still in Retreat With Their Ultimate Fate Yet in Doubt.

GERMAN 'TANKS' BEING USED
Majority of Attacks in Offensive of Russians Fail.

The importance of the successes of the Teutonic armies on the battlefields in the vicinity of Bucharest is emphasized by the announcement that, since December 1, the Rumanians have lost in prisoners more than 70,000 men, 184 cannon and 120 machine guns and the losses in dead and wounded are declared to be in proportion to the number of prisoners. The booty taken by the Teutonic armies is reported as "incalculable."

The ultimate fate of the Rumanian armies still is in doubt, but they continue to retreat before the Teutonic allies, whose pursuit, it is announced, "is progressing as planned."

Most of Russian Attacks Fail.
The Russians have again launched strong attacks on the upper Moldavian and Transylvanian frontiers, but the majority of them are reported to have failed with heavy losses. Some ground, however, was gained north of Dorna Watra, and Russian troops dislodged hostile forces from two heights in the Puna valley region, taking some prisoners and machine guns. The battle south of Javoritza, in the wooded Carpathians, has ceased and the Russians have retired to their entrenchments.

In consequence of the retreat eastward of the Rumanian troops, Russian troops on their left flank also have been compelled to retreat.

The Entente forces again have delivered attacks in the bend of the Cerna river, on the Macedonian front. There has been violent artillery fighting on the Somme front and in the vicinity of Hill 304 at Verdun.

Reply of German Chancellor.
The reply of the German Chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, to the latest representations of the United States government regarding the Belgian labor deportations is expected to be delivered today or tomorrow and it is stated that it will be couched "in the friendliest terms" and go as far as possible toward meeting the American wishes. Certain concessions, it is understood, may be made because of the promise of the Dutch consul at Antwerp, after the surrender of that city, that Belgians would not be deported.

German Raider on Atlantic.
A German warship, described as a light cruiser, is operating in the Atlantic, according to a statement of a British sea captain who declares that his vessel was held up by the Germans and the crew of the ship was being examined. Agitation in London shipping for the conveying of merchantmen has resulted.

One thousand persons are reported to have been killed by an explosion in a Russian ammunition factory.

Greens Will Join With Germany If Allies Break.
London, Dec. 10.—King Constantine has informed one of the legations at Athens that he would join with Germany if the Entente Allies break off diplomatic relations with him, according to a dispatch from Piraeus, by a new British war council of which the premier, David Lloyd-George, is a member, is declared by the London Evening News to have been in session all day Saturday.

Arrangements have been made for the exchange of German and British civilian prisoners more than 45 years old.

Berlin via Saville, Dec. 9.—An explosion in a Russian ammunition plant caused the death of about 1,000 persons, according to the Overseas News Agency today, quoting the Russian newspaper Rech. The news agency statement says: "The Russian newspaper Rech reports that a new explosion took place in an ammunition factory at La Satan. The cause is unknown. At the moment of the catastrophe, about 1,000 persons were working in the factory, all of whom evidently perished. The factory was completely destroyed."

ONE-CENT POSTAGE FOR DROP LETTERS

This Is Proposed in Postoffice Appropriations Bill, Now Virtually Completed.

PROPOSES 2ND CLASS ZONE
Is Expected That This Would Greatly Increase Charges for Publications That Have Nation-Wide Circulation.

Washington, Dec. 9.—One-cent postage for local first class deliveries and a zone system of rates for second-class matter, which is expected to greatly increase the charges for magazines and other periodicals having a nation-wide circulation, are provided for in the annual postoffice appropriation bill as virtually completed today in committee. The measure carrying appropriations totaling about \$327,000,000 probably will be reported to the House next week.

Under the one-cent postage provision the rate on letters and other mail matter of the first class when deposited in any postoffice or branch postoffice or letter box or postoffice in the delivery district for delivery within the limits of the postoffice, city or rural delivery district, will be cut in half.

The zone proposal for handling newspapers and magazines, which now pay a flat rate of one cent a pound, is regarded as one of the most radical changes in postage rates in years. It divides the country into eight zones with rates chargeable ranging from one cent for 300 miles to six cents for 1,800 miles or more. The bulk of daily newspapers, the committee believes, will not be affected, because they do not circulate beyond a 300-mile radius. The provision follows:

"That all newspapers, magazines and other publications regularly admitted to the mails as matter of the second class when mailed by the publisher, shall hereafter be subject to the following rates of postage, the zone system now applying to parcel post matter to be adapted also to second class matter.

"Local, first, second and third zone, (under 300 miles), one cent per pound.
"Fourth zone (300 to 600 miles) two cents per pound.
"Fifth zone (600 to 1,000 miles) three cents per pound.
"Sixth zone (1,000 to 1,400 miles) four cents per pound.
"Seventh zone (1,400 to 1,800 miles) five cents a pound.
"Eighth zone (over 1,800 miles) six cents a pound.

"Provided, that free-in-county circulation, provided by law shall continue as at present.
"The postmaster general shall have authority to require publishers to separate their mail into zones when offered for mailing."

Among other provisions the bill increases rates for mail order catalogues from two to eight cents a pound, making them third-class matter instead of parcel post, and raises the limitations on payment of clerk and carriers in first and second-class postoffices.

WILL CONSIDER NO MORE PETITIONS FOR CLEMENCY
Governor Says His Time From Now Will Be Completely Filled.

(Special Star Telegram).
Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 9.—Official announcement was made by Governor Craig this evening that he will not consider any more petitions for pardon or commutation during his term of office except in the most urgent cases where action is imperative. On or before December 20 he will issue pardons or commutations on petitions favorably considered.

There is only one month left of my administration," he said, "and this time will be consumed in business that must be attended to before the Legislature meets and before my successor will be inaugurated."

TWO MEMBERS OF BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION FORCE KILLED
Their Motor Car Collides With Freight on Norfolk Southern.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 9.—John Talton and Arthur Klass, members of a bridge construction force working on the Norfolk Southern railroad near Raleigh, were killed tonight when the motor truck car in which they were riding collided with a freight train. Two other men in the car were not seriously injured. The men were returning to camp from work when the collision occurred at a bend in the track.

CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA CITIES APPEAR ELIMINATED.
Board Recommends That Location of Armor Plant Be Far Inland.

Washington, Dec. 9.—A summary of the report of the special board appointed to consider the question of a site for the proposed \$11,000,000 government armor plant, made public today by Secretary Daniels, recommends that for military reasons, coastal and border areas be eliminated from consideration.

This would apply to all cities in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina within 200 miles of the coast and to many other cities similarly situated in coastal or border states.

SHOWING SITUATION CREATED BY CAPTURE OF BUCHAREST AND PLOESCI



Map of Southern Rumania, showing the situation created by the capture of Bucharest and Ploesti. Arrows indicate the direction of the German advance. (1)—Bucharest has been taken by troops of Von Mackensen's army that crossed the Danube into Rumania on November 24, coming from the South and southwest. (2)—Ploesti north of Bucharest has been taken by troops of Von Falkenhayn's army advancing from the northwest and west upon Bucharest. It is the center of the oil district. From Bucharest the Russians and Rumanians who held the capital had before the fall of Ploesti two railroads by which to retreat east and northeast. The capture of Ploesti cut one route. If Ploesti was taken before the armies had passed over the railroad through the city into retreat the Bucharest garrison had only one line of retreat, that to Fitești due east of Cernadova. Von Mackensen may manage to get another army across the Danube marsh from the Dobruja and cut that route also. There was a Rumanian army north of Ploesti in the Prahova valley near Sinala. If Ploesti was taken before this army retired by the railroad its position is serious also.

PUBLIC OPINION IS DECIDING FACTOR

Will Prompt Further Steps, If Any, in Protesting Against Belgian Deportations.

DIPLOMACY IS EXHAUSTED
Purpose of State Department in Publishing Text of Protest to Germany Was to Find Out Attitude of the Public.

Washington, Dec. 9.—American public opinion will decide what steps, if any, the government shall take to follow up its protest to Germany against the deportations of Belgians.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's conversation with Charge Grew, of the American embassy, in Berlin, has convinced the State Department officials that Germany's formal reply to the American protest will hold the deportations justified on the ground of social necessity.

It was admitted unreservedly today that the action of the State Department in publishing the text of the protest was for the purpose of sounding public opinion on the subject now that the ordinary resources of diplomacy have been exhausted.

Whether Germany's reply will be made public or answered with a further note will be decided until the attitude of the American public has been sounded out and the actual text of the German answer has been examined.

The State Department is conscious that it already has exceeded the conventional bounds of diplomacy in making several informal as well as formal representations in the case, but it is eager to emphasize its position in every reasonable way. The personal views (Continued on Page Two.)

CABINET WILL BE ANNOUNCED TODAY

Some of the Appointments in New British Ministry Had Not Been Made Yesterday.

WAR COUNCIL IS COMPLETE
Considered an Extremely Strong Body. None of Liberal Members of Asquith's Cabinet to Hold Office.

London, Dec. 9.—The expected announcement of Premier Lloyd-George's cabinet has been postponed until tomorrow, as some of the appointments have not yet been arranged. The latest reports give the constitution of the war council as Mr. Lloyd-George, Andrew Bonar-Law, Lord Curzon, Lord Milner and Arthur Henderson. Lord Milner will be minister without portfolio and Lord Curzon, lord privy seal.

A. J. Balfour probably will follow the example of Viscount Grey in taking a title to enable him to be spokesman for the foreign office in the house of lords, while Lord Robert Cecil will continue to represent the department in the house of commons. None of the liberal members of Mr. Asquith's cabinet will hold office under the new prime minister.

After the publication of the full cabinet, the next important proceeding will be the meeting of parliament on Tuesday when it is expected that Mr. Lloyd-George will make a speech outlining the policy of his administration and the new ministers will be asked many questions concerning conditions in Greece, and on other vital matters. The new war council is considered an extremely strong body.

COLD WAVE IS HERE
Warnings For South Carolina and East South Part of North Carolina.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Cold wave warnings for South Carolina and the east and south portions of North Carolina were issued by the weather bureau tonight. Lower temperatures will prevail as far south as central Florida.

Vance M'Cormick and Wilcox Meet
CHAIRMEN OF OPPOSING CAMPAIGN COMMITTEES SHAKE HANDS AND PROMISE TO WORK FOR "AMERICA FIRST"

Washington, Dec. 9.—Vance C. McCormick, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and William R. Wilcox, chairman of the Republican National Committee, at a dinner given here tonight by the Gridiron Club, met for the first time since the Presidential election. By pre-arrangement they shook hands while the orchestra played the National anthem and as they stood together it was announced that they would work for "America First."

The incident was staged with the setting of a prize fight, but after the seconds had been introduced, Mr. McCormick and Mr. Wilcox shook hands instead of fighting.

Another surprise at the dinner was the unfurling over a balcony of the suffrage banner displayed in the House of Representatives last Tuesday when President Wilson delivered his annual message to Congress. The suffragists have been trying to regain possession of the banner which was pulled down by a page. It was snatched down again tonight at a dinner just as it was done in the House.

GERMAN ARMORED CAR BIG SUCCESS

Vast Improvement Over the British "Tanks" Used in the Battle of the Somme.

TESTED OUT IN RUMANIA
Frequently Did More Damage to the Enemy Than Could Be Inflicted by a Whole Squadron—Carries Crew of Ten Men.

At General von Falkenhayn's Headquarters in Rumania, Dec. 9, (via London).—One of the most interesting features of the Rumanian campaign from a German standpoint has been the spectacular work of the new armored automobiles evolved soon after the advent of the British "tanks" on the Somme front, but which the developments in Rumania have shown to be a vast improvement in efficiency over the British machines.

Even in the brief tests it has had since the Germans crossed the mountains into the Rumanian plains the new car has shown itself an efficient auxiliary to the cavalry in patrol work, as it frequently can inflict infinitely more damage than a whole squadron and is far more difficult to destroy than the English invention. Its achievements so far include an attack on Rumanian infantry in which 300 men were killed.

The cars are 25 feet in length with wheels a foot wide and encased in solid rubber. They carry a crew of ten men, including the machine gun operators, the chauffeur and one substitute and an officer. The machine guns can be operated in almost any direction through the narrow slots. At one end, under the customary hood, is a 100 (Continued From Page Three.)

BRITT TO ASK SUPREME COURT TO ADVANCE CASE

Congressman and Attorneys Coming to Raleigh Today.

Want Case Heard Before Board Meets. If Not, Will Ask For Writ of Prohibition Against Certification.

(Special Star Telegram).
Asheville, N. C., Dec. 9.—Congressman James J. Britt, who arrived here from Washington last night, held a consultation with his attorneys and will leave tomorrow for Raleigh where he and attorneys will endeavor to have the famous Britt-Weaver election controversy, as decided in this district by Judge Adams, advanced on the court calendar for trial.

The Britt faction will try to have the case heard before December 19, the day on which the State canvassing board is scheduled to meet and issue a certificate to Mr. Weaver on the face of present returns.

Mr. Britt and his attorneys stated tonight that if they fail to have the Judge Adams decision advanced for hearing before December 19, they will ask the Supreme court for a writ of prohibition, prohibiting the State Board of Canvassers from issuing a certificate to Mr. Weaver. Mr. Britt declared that he would go direct from Raleigh back to Washington on Monday.

FUNSTON EXPLAINS HIS STAND TAKEN AGAINST REVIVALS

Asserts That He Never Said the Soldiers Should Not Be Told They Were "Lost."

WRITES TO DR. GAMBRELL
Points Out That Chaplains, Many of Them Baptists, Conduct Services in Camps.

San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 9.—Major General Funston, commanding the Department of the South, tonight replied to Rev. Dr. J. B. Gambrell, secretary of the home mission board of the Southern Baptist Convention, explaining the general's reason for not permitting revivals in the military camps here and along the border. Numerous Baptist state conventions have adopted resolutions condemning what they understood to have been the general's action, and suggestions were made that President Wilson, as commander-in-chief of the army, be asked to take official cognizance of the matter.

A resolution asking for information on the controversy also has been introduced in Congress. General Funston gave out copies of the letter to the press in which he says in part:

Unjust and Abusive Letters.
"From time to time I have been receiving copies of resolutions passed by various Baptist bodies condemning my supposed stand relative to holding religious services among the troops on the border and also have received a number of very unjust and in some cases, abusive letters from clergymen of the same denomination. Incidentally I might say that I have had more letters approving my stand than I have condemning it."

"This whole disagreeable incident, with all of its annoyance to me, of course, arises from the statement made by you after your visit to the headquarters a couple of months ago, in which you sought to obtain permission to conduct a series of revivals in the border camps. You stated your business to Colonel Barnum, chief of staff. If Colonel Barnum stated at that time what denomination you belonged to, it made no impression on my mind, and if he had, it would have made no difference whatever."

Religious Services Welcome.
"I told that officer to explain to you fully that while religious services along the border were conducted in the camps by chaplains and other clergymen and were welcome, I could not give my consent to the holding of revivals, therein giving the word, as I was justified in doing. Its usually accepted meaning, I told Colonel Barnum to explain to you why revivals were out of place in a military camp, citing the disgraceful performance in San Antonio last winter as an example of what revivals are apt to develop into. It is a general knowledge as to how revivals or 'protracted' meetings, as they are sometimes called, are usually conducted."

Implication Resented.
"I further instructed Colonel Barnum to say to you that if you did not accept, in fact, resented, the implication that because a man had put on his country's uniform, he was necessarily lost, or worse than other men; that I thought there were people who had stayed at home who needed revivals worse than the soldiers did."

"Under the circumstances you can imagine my astonishment when I read your statements to the effect that I had said that I would not allow the soldiers to be told that they were 'lost.' You must know as well as I do that the doctrine that should be preached to the men was never once considered or mentioned, and with all due courtesy I feel compelled to say that your making repeatedly the statements you are quoted as making was absolutely inexcusable and did me a grave injustice."

"Not Necessarily Lost."
"The only time the word 'lost' was used was when I said I did not accept this view; that because a man put on his country's uniform he was not necessarily lost."

"I say frankly that I would not want to take chances on allowing a series of revivals or protracted meetings in these great camps. I am justified in giving the word revival its usually accepted meaning—a series of meetings continuing day and night for an indefinite period with loud exhortation and singing and much emotionalism."

"How about the rights of the men who do not want to attend revivals and who do not wish to be disturbed by them? Are they to be compelled to leave the camp, which is their home, and wander about down town or through fields to get away from them? Has a man no rights because he is a soldier? There are many religious people who disapprove strongly of revivals with their attendant emotionalism. And, anyhow, he is a man religious or irreligious, be he Christian, Hebrew or Mohammedan, no other person has a right to rub his belief or his worship into his face, that is, to bring it into the place where he has a right to be and where he cannot escape from it without abandoning that place."

Might Result in Riot.
"Soldiers must be protected from imposition by the superior officers and if these officers, from weakness or other reason, fall in their duty, their only recourse is submission or riot; and it is (Continued on Page Two.)"