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ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 30, 1914.

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## ALLIES MAKE SLIGHT HEADWAY ON EAST END OF BATTLE LINE

### Berlin Admits the French Have Renewed Advances In That Field--Allies Holding Own In West.

### FRENCH PROGRESS IN CENTER, CLAIM

#### Report of Breaking of the German Right Wing Has Not Yet Been Confirmed Officially.

London, Sept. 30.—For the first time in this war of nine months, there is today some concordance in the drift of reports from headquarters of the three armies holding the center of the stage in France. It is, however, to be noted that the corroboration by one side of claims of the other is largely negative.

"The French advances from Verdun and Toul have been renewed," is the German official report of yesterday's fighting on the eastern end of the line, and the communication of General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French forces, agrees with it, with the statement that his troops have made "slight headway in that field."

At the other end of the 250 mile field "the allied are holding their own," reports British headquarters, and the Berlin announcement seems indirectly to admit this claim by announcing that the battles on this end have been indecisive. In the center the French claim slight advances.

Confirmation of the report in a news agency story that the German right wing had been broken and is in flight, is still lacking.

Commentators show much scepticism of this report, although they consider the breaking of the German right wing would only be a natural result of the allies' turning movement, the present status of which is pictured in the French official announcement of yesterday. This shows the allies have pushed back the invaders until the German right wing is virtually at right angles with the remainder of the line. The fact that the German army headquarters admit that their great efforts to throw back the pressure of the allies have proved indecisive have been received in England as significant.

ternoon the turning point of the allies north of the Somme is developing rapidly. The German attack on Tracy-le-Mont has been repulsed with heavy losses.

The text of the statement is as follows: "First, on our left wing north of the Somme the action continues to develop rapidly. To the north, between the Oise and the Aisne, the enemy has delivered a vigorous attack on Tracy-le-Mont, northeast of the forest of Aigue. They were repulsed with heavy losses."

"Second, on the center there is a relative calm along the entire front which extends from Rheims to the Meuse. Between Argonne and the Meuse we have made slight progress. "In the Woerwe district there have been severe battles. Our troops have advanced at several points, notably to the east of St. Mimiel. "On our right wing in Lorraine and the Vosges there has been no change."

**Not Unfavorable to Allies.** It was again the turn of the allies' left yesterday to sustain the shock of the enemy's charge on the battle front in northern France, and although the official communication does not say so it is reliably reported they took many prisoners.

The usual reticence of officers added to the work of the censors makes the lot of the military prognosticators a hard one. The absence of news makes a place for rumors which are very plentiful, but which no one dares to publish even if their truth has been ascertained. All that can be said of the unofficial reports that are printable is that they are not unfavorable to the allies.

### URGE STATUTES TO REDUCE ACREAGE

#### Reduction of Cotton Planting 50 Per Cent or Total Elimination Favored.

New Orleans, La., Sept. 30.—Creation of effective public sentiment for a greatly reduced acreage, or total elimination of cotton planting next year, with the ultimate aim of having state legislatures to enact laws regulating planting, was decided on today by the Southern Cotton convention here today as the best method of meeting the lack of cotton inquiry due to the European war.

It is suggested that planters pledge themselves to reduce the acreage at least on half and wherever possible pledge not to plant any cotton in 1915. The cotton organizations also are requested to petition the governors of the states to call a special session of the legislature to enact laws either prohibiting planting or providing an acre reduction of at least 50 per cent.

The resolution follows: "Be it resolved, that it is the sense of this convention that it would be greatly to the interest of the cotton growers as well as every commercial industrial and agricultural interest not only of the south but of the whole country that the planting of cotton be entirely eliminated or reduced to the minimum during the year 1915."

"Be it further resolved, that cotton growers, bankers, merchants and all other cotton interests in each county, including the farmers' union and Southern Cotton congress meet and take action, (if the legislature has not acted) look to the pledging of each grower to reduce his acreage 50 per cent or more or omit planting entirely for the year 1915."

"Be it further resolved, that in order to insure that no cotton be planted or not more than 50 per cent during the year 1915, the said associations and organizations request the governors of the cotton states to convene the legislatures for the purpose of passing laws to reduce the cotton acreage or prohibit the planting of cotton in order to eradicate the boll weevil and other pests as well as to accomplish the above-mentioned objectives."

### JAPS COMPLETELY INVEST TSING TAU

#### Japanese Claim to Occupy Heights Which German Commanded—Chinese Troops Are Opposing Operations of the Japanese Soldiers

Peking, China, Sept. 30.—The Germans in Kiao Chow have evacuated the Waldersee line of defense before an overwhelming force of the enemy. Tsing-Tau is now completely invested. German losses were small.

This information is contained in a dispatch received here from a German source at Tsing-Tau, Shan-Tung, which evidently is a wireless communication from Tsing-Tau. It adds that the Japanese armored cruiser squadron bombarded Tsing-Tau Monday, without doing any damage.

Japanese official reports corroborate the foregoing and explain that the engagement occurred Monday morning. They declare further that the Germans drew in their first line of defense five miles from Tsing-Tau and that Japanese troops occupy heights which the Germans commanded.

Chinese Oppose. Wei Hsen, Shang-Tung, China, Sept. 29.—Chinese troops today blew up and destroyed the bridge at Tayu-Ho, six miles west of here. The sound of the explosion could be heard in this city.

The above dispatch is the first indication that Chinese troops have taken any active part in opposing the military operations of the Japanese in Shan-Tung province, in the latter's campaign against the Germans in the leased territory of Kiao Chow.

To facilitate this campaign the Japanese landed in Chinese territory. At this China protested, but the protest was ignored.

Recent dispatches from Peking said the Chinese believed the Japanese intended to capture all the railroad stations to the west of Wei Hsen. Three hundred Japanese cavalrymen left Wei Hsen recently, going west along the railroad.

### RUSSIAN KING WAS NOT ALLOWED TO AID GERMANY

#### London, Sept. 30.—The Rome correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company reports that a message received at Rome from Bucharest says that King Charles has summoned the cabinet in special session tomorrow to determine the attitude of Roumania toward the war.

Paris, Sept. 30.—According to a dispatch published in the *Journal des Debats*, Germany expected the aid of Roumania but when this was asked, one of the ministers said, "we are quite willing if it is against Austria."

King Charles turned to him and said, "I gave my word to Emperor William and a Hohenzollern keeps his word."

J. J. O. Brattiano, the president of the council, interposed saying: "The country knows no Hohenzollern. It knows only the king of Roumania who does not have to give his word to anyone."

King Charles then decided to call a council of the crown with the former ministers in attendance but only one sided with him in favor of Germany. It is reported the king then replied to Averesco to try a coup d'etat, and arrest the ministers, but Averesco refused, saying: "Sire, you will be the first victim."

It is said also that some superior officers declared they would desert and join the Russian army rather than fight for Austria.

London, Sept. 30.—The report that the 1885, 1886 and 1888 classes of Italian reserves will be called to the colors early in October, has been confirmed by several Italian newspapers, according to the correspondent of the *London Daily Mail* at Venice.

Eleven first category classes will then be under the flag, and the total is 1,399,000 men. Without counting the 80,000 men now in Tripoli, Italy will have an army of 1,310,000 men in her own territory, divided into 30 army corps.

### AUSTRIANS AND BRING CHARGES GERMANS JOIN AGAINST BRITISH

#### New Combined Army Is Taking up Position and Has Been in Contact With Russian Forces.

### FIERCE BATTLE RAGING SINCE LAST SUNDAY

#### Russians Command Railways in Przemysl District and Are Advancing Rapidly in Two Columns.

London, Sept. 30.—It is officially announced that a juncture has been effected between the new German army and the remnants of the Austro-Hungarian army which fought in the Galician battle. The new combined army is taking up a position and already has been in contact with the Russians along the Carpathian Tarnow-Racow front.

A dispatch from Rome to the Exchange Telegraph company, dated Tuesday, said: "A Petrograd message states that a fierce battle between the army of General Rennenkampf and the German general von Hindenburg has been raging since Sunday morning on a front extending from Grodno to Drusniko on the Niemen river. Four army corps have been engaged on both sides and the Russians are being constantly reinforced from Vilna. The Russians have already repulsed the Germans at several points."

An official dispatch from Petrograd to the Havas agency says: "The region of Sowlitzki and Derzinsky, on September 28, the Russians attacked the Germans furiously. The Germans attempted to repulse the Russians by repeated charges, but this was effectively defeated."

Advancing Rapidly. A message from Petrograd dealing with the Russian advance through Galicia, says: "The Russians are in possession of all railways in the district of Przemysl and are advancing rapidly in two lines, states a dispatch from the Rome correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company." The report continues: "The northern column (of Russians) has made an assault on Tarnow the last obstacle between it and Cracow and only 60 miles distant."

The southern column, after occupying Sanok, has advanced westward with the intention of cutting off the retreat in that section of the Austrian army which is being driven southward.

Indications are that the Russians do not intend to capture Cracow but leave it to be surrounded by way of Breslau, in hopes of meeting the Russian central column in Poland.

#### England Showing Utter Disregard of Rights of Neutral States, Claim Berlin Sources.

### CAPTURE OF HOLLAND SHIPS ONE CHARGE

#### British Aviator Drops Bomb in Dutch Town; Dum-Dum Bullets Supplied Officers Are Others.

Berlin, Sept. 30.—(By Wireless).—Reports made public here from Constantinople declare that owing to the bellicose attitude of British warships cruising near the Dardanelles, "unfriendly" reports of the British government have been received in Berlin as excited by the capture of Dutch ships by the British. The Rotterdam Courant declares Great Britain is showing utter disregard of the rights of neutral states. It says the Netherlands steamer *Sophie*, from Rotterdam for New York, was captured by British warships in the channel and taken into tow of the cruisers.

It is admitted that the British aviator flying over the Netherlands town of Maastricht dropped a bomb, thus breaking the existing neutrality. The story has been given out in Berlin to the effect that Colonel Gordon and Lieutenant Colonel Nish, attached to the Gordon Highlanders, and now prisoners of war in the hands of the Germans confessed in the course of an official examination that the British government had supplied them with dum-dum bullets for use in automatic revolvers.

Albert Ballin, director general of the Hamburg-American steamship line, has published an article in the *Hamburger Nachrichten* in which he declares that the British money market will be discredited by the moratorium for a long time to come. He says that the cutting of the German cable by the British and the "stupendous lies of the English and French news agencies have produced a moratorium of truth for the world over."

Two cigarette factories in Germany, the *Jasmintz* concern at Dresden, and the *Balschari* factory at Baden-Baden, owned by the Anglo-American Tobacco combine, have been placed under government control for the reason that the majority of the capital is held in England.

According to the *Lokal Anzeiger*, Prince Franz, son of the king of Bavaria, who has the rank of major general, and is in command of the second Bavarian regiment has been slightly wounded in the thigh. He is now on his way to Munich.

Prince William of Hohenzollern, whose daughter is the wife of Manuel, former king of Portugal, has been decorated with the order of the Iron Cross, first and second class.

Inquiry Asked. Washington, Sept. 30.—Secretary Bryan, in a resolution passed by the senate today, was asked to inquire if it was not compatible with public interests whether the British government was interfering with shipments of copper in neutral ships to Rotterdam.

### ITALIAN RESERVES WILL BE CALLED EARLY NEXT MONTH

London, Sept. 30.—The report that the 1885, 1886 and 1888 classes of Italian reserves will be called to the colors early in October, has been confirmed by several Italian newspapers, according to the correspondent of the *London Daily Mail* at Venice.

Eleven first category classes will then be under the flag, and the total is 1,399,000 men. Without counting the 80,000 men now in Tripoli, Italy will have an army of 1,310,000 men in her own territory, divided into 30 army corps.

The correspondent says the Austrians are still throwing up earthworks along the frontier, the Ponta Arive line being defended by the landwehr.

Rome, Sept. 30.—(Via Paris).—The Atlantic yesterday and was picked up by George W. Corbett, a brother of Mayor Corbett.

The Emden has been operating in the Gulf of Bengal. She recently conducted a brief bombardment of a port there and later at Pondicherry.

St. Augustine, Fla., Sept. 30.—Bearing on its leg a cylinder with the words, "Germany 12-12," stamped thereon, a pigeon fluttered in from the sky.

### SINKING OF SIX BRITISH SHIPS HAS BEEN REPORTED

London, Sept. 30.—A report has been received here that the Emden has sunk four British steamers.

The Emden has been operating in the Gulf of Bengal. She recently conducted a brief bombardment of a port there and later at Pondicherry.

St. Augustine, Fla., Sept. 30.—Bearing on its leg a cylinder with the words, "Germany 12-12," stamped thereon, a pigeon fluttered in from the sky.

TERRIBLE GALE SWEEPS ALONG GERMAN COAST. London, Sept. 30.—The heaviest gale within living memory is sweeping over Denmark and the North sea along the whole German coast, says the Copenhagen correspondent of the *Daily News*.

Considerable damage has been done to property," continues the dispatch. "The German air maneuvers in the region of Kiel have been abandoned. A telephone message from West Jutland states that a number of bodies of German sailors in uniform were washed ashore Monday north of Esbjerg. Telegraphic communication has been considerably upset."

WILLIAM'S FINE STOCK TAKEN BY RUSSIANS. London, Sept. 30.—Petrograd dispatch to the Star says that among the

remarkable war trophies arriving at Smolensk is the entire stock of Emperor William's famous pedigree cattle and stud horses, captured by the Russians from the emperor's estate in Rominten in east Prussia. They were taken to Moscow and presented to the Russian agricultural institute for distribution to agricultural breeding associations.

LISTS OF PRISONERS BEING EXCHANGED. London, Sept. 30.—The British and German have begun exchanging lists of prisoners of war through American Ambassador Page, preparatory to exchanging. The first lists were not very extended, but additional lists are expected shortly. Up to the present time these exchanges have been arranged only for women and children and men more than 55 years of age or less than 15 years old or physically disabled.

### CHINESE GIRL HELD IN SLAVERY IN SAN FRANCISCO

Kept in Bondage After She Had Worked Out Purchase Price of \$3900.

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—The first conviction on record here for keeping a human being in slavery, was obtained yesterday.

In federal district court, Mrs. Wong Sam, an aged Chinese woman, was found guilty of holding in bondage Loy Gum, a slave girl.

Evidence was presented showing that the girl was smuggled into this country and sold for \$3900. After she had worked out this charge she still was held under threats that if she attempted to escape she would be burned alive.

Hospital Ship Sails. Falmouth, Sept. 30.—(Via London).—The American hospital ship *Red Cross* sailed from here this morning and is expected to arrive at Paulina, France (30 miles northwest of Bordeaux) tomorrow night.