

FIERCE FIGHTING IN GALICIA... ALLIES MAKE SNAIL ADVANCE IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM AT SOME POINTS

London, Dec. 30, 10:20 p. m.—Since the Russian defeat of the Austrians in Galicia, which, while not irreparable is likely to affect the whole Austro-German campaign in the East, there has been in important developments on either front.

The allies, although making no dramatic attacks on the German lines, are steadily hammering away with their artillery and when opportunity offers push their lines a few yards forward. A French eye-witness describing battles from December 16 to 24 gives a good idea of the fighting, and records gains which, while each only in yards amount to the aggregate to a considerable advance.

Flight Man to Man. A few hundred yards in Flanders were taken by primitive methods. Having the breeches of their rifles choked with mud, the allies used them as clubs and in many cases fought the Germans with their fists.

In one little French village within sound of the guns, the British light infantry, the first of the Canadian contingent to go to the front, is billeted, waiting its turn to go into the trenches. The men were accorded a splendid reception by their comrades in arms and the French villagers.

Germans Retire on Bzura. With the defeat of the Austrians in Galicia and South Poland, and the retirement of the Germans across the Bzura, Petrograd believes the turning point has been reached in the battle of the Polish rivers.

Losses in these battles have reached enormous figures in dead, wounded and prisoners and must have been largely increased by disease, for the men fought under dreadful climatic conditions and in mud, for which Poland is notorious.

Russians Slaughter Germans. Petrograd, Dec. 29.—The following official statement was issued from general headquarters today: "Along the whole front of the armies operating in the left bank of the Vistula, there has been a full except in the region of Bolimow, Inowolow and Malogoszcz, where fierce fighting persists."

Troops Advance in Galicia. In West Galicia our troops are advancing successfully. East of Zakliczyn we stormed several fortified works of the enemy, making prisoners of 44 officers and 1,500 soldiers and capturing eight machine guns.

Southwest of Lunkow our troops disclosed the Austrians from positions which they had strongly organized. They fled in a panic.

Vienna, Dec. 30.—Via London, December 31, 12:05 a. m.—An official statement issued by the War Department today, gives the following summary of the war situation.

In the Carpathians our troops delivered an attack north of Uzok Pass and occupied several heights. Our counter-attacks to the north of Lupkow Pass (Galicia) have brought to a standstill the Russian advance.

CONGRESS AID TO PLACE GLORY ON ALL THE SEAS

Senate Commerce Committee is Heartily in Favor of The Ship Purchase Bill

Secretary Redfield Sends Strong Letter

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—Initiating the aggressive fight to be waged against the proposed ship purchase bill to free American commerce from European war limitations, majority members of the Senate Commerce Committee today filed a report recommending the measure in vigorous terms and transmitting a commendatory letter from Secretary of Commerce Redfield.

The committee report, filed by Acting Chairman Fletcher, quoted the report submitted yesterday by Secretary McCadoe and Redfield showing enormous increases in ocean transportation rates since the war began and attendant falling off in ocean tonnage facilities. The committee predicted that enactment of the ship purchase bill would go far to relieve that situation.

Secretary Redfield in his letter, written to Mr. Fletcher and accompanying the report, declared that for years the United States ocean shipping had been in the hands of its competitors. Like a department store without any delivery system except such as competitors were willing to supply. The result was easily to be foreseen, he argued, when twenty years ago American goods disappeared from the market.

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SHIPPING PORTS STILL ABSORBING TOPIC AT CAPITAL

Washington Is Sure That An Amicable Agreement on Be Reached

Note Friendly, But Firm and Emphatic

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—While the American note to Great Britain protesting against interruptions to the commerce of this country continued today to absorb official Washington, there was confidence that difficulties of the last few months eventually would be amicably adjusted.

Already the discussion had tapered to measure the United States could take in co-operation with Great Britain to reduce the necessity for extended search on the high seas.

High officials of the Washington government have been surprised by the American note, which is regarded as "brusque" in some London quarters. They said the British cabinet, after a single reading of the document, must be convinced that the United States had spoken in the most friendly spirit, though none the less earnestly and emphatically.

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THIRD CAMPAIGN AGAINST RUSW ENDS IN FAILURE

The Russians Held Like a Stone Wall Before The Capital of Poland

German Retirement Appears Under Way

Petrograd, Dec. 30.—Via London, 6:35 p. m.—The Russian view of recent developments in Poland is that a definite check has been administered to the Germans. Their evacuation of Miazewice, five miles north of Szczytno, is regarded by military critics as "hinging down the curtain on the third German advance toward Warsaw."

At a tremendous loss to themselves the Germans had succeeded in establishing a foothold in Miazewice, on the east bank of the Bzura, but three weeks of persistent sledge-hammer attacks failed to penetrate the Russian line before Warsaw. When it became evident that the Austrian advance from the Carpathian mountains had failed, the Germans evacuated the village. The Austrian Carpathian operations evidently formed an integral part of the general German plan for the Warsaw campaign.

Heavy artillery is being brought up by the Germans along their center between Skierjewice and the Pilica river, but this is regarded as purely a defensive move to prevent breaking of the German front by Russian infantry operating there under the cover of artillery.

Unofficial reports from the Warsaw front say that in comparison with the retreat of the German army, the Russian operations are mere episodes. In Galicia the Russians have taken the important town of Gorlice, fifteen miles south of Tarnow, whence the West Galician Austrian army recently was halted and prevented from joining that of General Boehm-Ermoldi, advancing from Sanok-Lisko.

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Scenes of British Raid and the Managers of It



Admiral Jellicoe, commander in chief of the British fleet, and Sir David Henderson, chief of the Royal Flying Corps, managed the raid of the British battle-ships on Cuxhaven, one headquarters of the German fleet. In answer to great demands in Britain for action, which followed the German at-

TEN BILLION IN FARM PRODUCTS

This Year Broke All Previous Records For Value and Production

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—American farm products during 1914 eclipsed all records for value with a total of almost ten billion dollars. Secretary Houston announced today that the value of all farm crops, farm and animal products and farm animals sold and slaughtered aggregated \$2,872,936,000. That was \$33,000,000 more than the grand total for 1913, the previous record year. It was more than double the value of all farm products in 1899.

Crops this year were valued at \$6,044,480,000 and farm animal products at \$3,828,456,000. The value of crops was slightly less than in 1913, on account of the reduced value of cotton. It was distinctly higher, however, than the most valuable ever produced. They brought the year's crop value total to only \$85,278,000 less than the total for last year, despite the loss of 294,000 tons of live cotton, sugar beets, and other crops.

The estimated value of the animal products of the farm in 1914, as reported by the Agricultural Outlook today, was distinctly higher than in 1913, which was the highest year since 1901. The value of the class of products, which is due to general, but slight increases in production, except for sheep and swine and in the average farm to a small increase in the average price of eggs, and to a more considerable increase in the farm price of cattle and calves sold and slaughtered.

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WOLLMER FAVORS EMBARGO ON ARMS

Iowa German Declares in Congress That War Could Soon Be Stopped

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—The United States could end the European war in three months by cutting off export of war material, was the assertion of Representative Wollmer of Iowa, today before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. With Representative Wollmer's endorsement, the resolution to authorize the president in his discretion to prohibit such exports.

"President Wilson," he said, "suspended the embargo on export of arms and munitions to Mexico in 1915 and the only question at issue was one of national policy."

"I maintain," said Representative Wollmer, "that this resolution is in line with the historic reputation of this nation as the greatest advocate of peace. It is not in line with that reputation to supply the instruments of murder to European nations."

"We are now in the position of sending dollars of Belgium and arm and bullet for Germany."

"Representative Wollmer emphatically declared 'Germany cannot be beaten in this war. Her people are united and determined to fight to the last drop of blood. If this war continues it will go on and on until the world is dragged down to bankruptcy.'

"There is only one nation whose lines of national interest are hopelessly opposed to ours. I do not hesitate to predict that Japan proposes to hold not only King Chen."

"I believe," he said, "that the German people look with grave displeasure on shipments of arms to the belligerent."

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POU EXONERATES WILLS G. BRIGGS OF WRONG DOING

Congressman Says Postmaster at Raleigh Is Not to Blame For Carelessness

Alleged Practices THE FAULT OF CLERKS

Mr. Briggs Warned Them, Says Mr. Pou, and His Duty Ended There, As They Are Under Civil Service; Believes Mr. Briggs a Man of High Character and That He Should Be Given a Square Deal; If There Is Any Removing Done It Will Not Likely Be The Postmaster

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—Representative Pou told First Assistant Postmaster General Roper today that he does not think Postmaster Wills G. Briggs of Raleigh, should be removed and that the recommendation of Postoffice Inspector Gray for removal should not have been made on the allegations in the report.

The inspector's report, which Mr. Pou read the report through today and declared he can find nothing in it warranting the removal of Mr. Briggs, Mr. Briggs may be removed.

Mr. Briggs Commended. "There is no suggestion of wrong doing by Mr. Briggs," says Mr. Pou. "The charge is that he has been guilty of negligence. Raleigh is a very important office. Millions are put out to rural carriers and other persons during the term of a postmaster. He cannot do the work himself but must depend upon others. His subordinates are appointed by the postmaster but are taken from the civil service eligible list. To remove from office a man of high character like Mr. Briggs, who he did not or could not force the removal of, is a very important matter. Millions are put out to rural carriers and other persons during the term of a postmaster. He cannot do the work himself but must depend upon others. His subordinates are appointed by the postmaster but are taken from the civil service eligible list. To remove from office a man of high character like Mr. Briggs, who he did not or could not force the removal of, is a very important matter. 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