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GERMANS PUSH BACK RUSSIANS

Kaiser's Troops Have Repulsed Czar's Forces After Fierce Fighting In East

WARSAW AGAIN THREATENED

Russians Claim Partial Success—German Losses In West—Turkey Explains To United States

Directing their energies against the advancing Russian invasion, which menaced the safety of Berlin, the German forces of a half million men, combined with reinforcements of Austrian troops, have succeeded in repulsing the Slavs and forcing their retreat far back across the Polish border.

Warsaw is again threatened and much alarm is felt at Petrograd. The Russians, however, claim partial success. The Servians to the South are making a stand against the Austrian attacks, though the latter occupy superior positions and unless other Balkan states take a hand, Serbia is seemingly facing defeat.

While German successes have been marked on the eastern border, the Anglo-French lines are announcing decisive victories on the west. Although the Germans shelled Ypres, and totally destroyed the town hall and market place, they are said to have made no headway. Fierce cannonading has been heard in the region of Soissons and Vailly.

Turkish activities have commanded much attention in the east. The Ottoman cruisers have been reported successful on the Black sea, where the Russian port of Taupse was bombarded. The Russians claim there was little damage done, while Constantinople advices state the Turks destroyed all the Russian petroleum depots and the wireless station. A heavy nine-hour battle between the Turks and Russians is reported on the Sht-el-Arab river, which empties into the Persian gulf. Turkish forces are reported to have arrived in large numbers at Suez and engaged the British in a battle near Port Said.

A voluntary explanation was offered by the Ottoman government to the United States regarding the Tennessee incident in the gulf of Smyrna, which has been accepted by President Wilson and the authorities at Washington. Turks say the shot was a warning against the mined area of the gulf.

Alarmed by the rapid advancement of the Russians in the east and the peril to which Berlin is threatened, the Kaiser has thrown the strength of his east German army and a large portion of the Austrian troops on the czar's forces to check their invasion. That the Germans have been successful in impeding the enemy's progress is admitted in Petrograd. However, the Russians are optimistic and point to the hasty defense that is being made at Kustrin to protect Berlin as one of the telling points of their achievements. Kustrin is only fifty miles away from the capital, which has been seriously threatened in the last few days by the army of Grand Duke Nicholas.

Austrian troops have started another attack on Serbia, much to the alarm of Bulgaria and the other Balkan states. Petrograd advices state that the Turkish fort at the entrance of the port of Khoga in Armenia has been destroyed by the Russian army of the Caucasus. The Russian Black sea fleet, on the other hand, is said to have been seriously worsted by Turkish ships in the harbor of Sebastopol.

The French lines claim successes in Argonne. The Italian government is deeply concerned over the Austrian invasion of Serbia, and the government at Rome has called home all her ambassadors to European capitals to confer with the Italian cabinet.

Inclement weather conditions throughout the war zone prevented fighting to any considerable extent during the past week, but the attacks are beginning to be renewed on both sides of the empire.

Little significance is being attached by the officials at Washington to the firing on a naval launch from the United States cruiser Tennessee in the gulf of Smyrna by Turkish guns. The navy department is inclined to the belief that the shot was but a friendly warning against the mined area.

Germans Take United States Steamer
Santiago, Chile.—The American steamer Sacramento, until a few months ago the German steamer Alexandria, has put into Valparaiso with a story charging violation of neutrality. The Sacramento left San Francisco for Valparaiso flying the Stars and Stripes, October 15. Captain Jacobson declares his steamer was seized on the high sea by a German warship, taken to Juan Fernandez Island, belonging to Chile, and obliged to turn over his provisions and 6,000 tons of coal. An investigation has been begun.

ANOTHER WORLD'S PENNANT CONTEST



BALTIMORE AMERICAN.

London.—The veil of secrecy has been drawn over the battles between the Russians and the Austro-German forces. Headquarters of both armies confine themselves to briefest statements, saying merely that fighting continues.

News from unofficial sources, however, shows the German advance has penetrated farther into Poland than previously disclosed. Warsaw is now threatened for a second time. General Von Hindenburg's army has advanced as far as the Lowicz-Skierniewice line, or two-thirds of the way to the Polish capital, from which they now are only forty miles distant.

The battle in East Prussia seems to have died down, but the Russians continue to advance in Galicia, and still are fighting on the Czenstochowa-Cracow front.

The battle in Poland in the direction of Lowicz is the most critical one, and the Germans have the greatest confidence in the outcome, but Petrograd military observers declare Russia's overwhelming superiority in numbers against must tell, as when the Germans made their first attack on Warsaw.

In Flanders and in France the armies seem to be enjoying a long deserved rest. The only evidence that the belligerents are facing each other is an occasional bombardment with heavy guns.

Gains At Ypres

An eye-witness with British headquarters in a long statement made public recently gives official confirmation of heavy German losses at Ypres. He speaks of decimated battalions, of hundreds of dead left before the trenches and of batches of bodies found in farm houses. Casualty lists show that the British forces also have suffered severely.

The Servians are making a stand against the Austrians in well-chose fortified positions on the Kolubara river, but as the Austrians command superior forces it seems apparent that unless other Balkan states come into the war Serbia is facing defeat.

The recruiting campaign in the British Isles resulted in bringing many men to the colors. Troops with banners flying and bands playing marched through the east end of London to Victoria Park, where speakers addressed the crowds from early morning until late in the evening.

Germans Shell Ypres

Paris.—The following official communication was issued at the war office:

"There has been a violent bombardment of Ypres. The market place and the town hall were destroyed. In the region of Soissons and Vailly, there was rather strong cannonading.

British Lose In Egypt

Berlin.—The following information was given out in official quarters: "Advices from Rome are to the effect that in the fighting at El Arish, a fortified Egyptian town on the Mediterranean, the British suffered heavy losses. The Italian colony in Egypt is suffering from the prostration of all lines of trade. Maj. Gen. Sir John Maxwell, commander of the British forces in Egypt, declared that it was only her treaties with the allies which led England to fight against Turkey.

Slavs Claim Partial Success

Petrograd.—The following official report from general headquarters was issued:

"The fighting between the Vistula and the Wartha continues with great persistence. We have obtained some partial successes. The fights on the front of Czenstochowa-Cracow have resulted in no essential changes. We have taken 2,000 prisoners and some machine guns. In Galicia the Austrians have evacuated Novy-Sandez under the pressure of our troops."

Explain To Uncle Sam

Washington.—Turkey has explained voluntarily to the United States government, through Ambassador Morgenthau, that shots fired toward the American cruiser Tennessee's launch were intended merely as the customary warning that the port of Smyrna was mined and closed to navigation. Although the explanation is informal, it was admitted at the white house and the state and navy departments that all danger of serious complications had disappeared.

Turks Claim Victory

London.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent says:

"An official Constantinople telegram says the Turkish cruiser Hamidieh bombarded and destroyed the Russian petroleum depots and wireless station at Taupse, near Novorossysk (on the Black Sea). A heavy battle, lasting nine hours, occurred on November 18 along the Sht-el-Arab river (this river empties into the Persian gulf and forms part of the boundary between the Persian and Turkish dominions) between the British and Turkish troops. The British losses were heavy. Captured British soldiers declare the wounded included the British commander."

Turks Bombard Russians

Petrograd.—This communication from the Russian general staff in the Caucasus was issued:

"On the morning of November 20 the Turkish cruiser Hamidieh, followed by a flotilla of torpedo boats, appeared off Taupse and opened fire, hurling 125 projectiles into the neighborhood. The Russian artillery replied very effectively. Our losses were three soldiers and a Sister of Charity wounded; one civilian killed and ten civilians injured. The material damage was insignificant."

Defense Of Berlin

London.—The Morning Post's Petrograd correspondent says: "In the new invasion of Poland, the Germans are using their finest troops and depending on manhood instead of machinery. As far as we know the Russians will continue to retire until the plan chosen by Grand Duke Nicholas for the final effort is reached."

U. S. Asks Explanation

Washington.—The United States government has directed Ambassador Henry Morgenthau at Constantinople to ask an explanation of the firing by Turkish land force at a launch from the American cruiser Tennessee proceeding from Vourliah to the American consulate at Smyrna, Asia Minor. Secretary Daniels simultaneously cabled the commanders of the Tennessee and the cruiser North Carolina, also in the Mediterranean, to take no action which might embarrass the American government.

RUSSIANS GAINING GERMANS LOSING

MASTERFUL GENERAL VON HINDENBURG IS CHECKED BY NICHOLAS.

RUSSIAN NUMBERS TELLING

Bombardment of Ypres Continues.—French Claim Success in Region of Argonne.

London.—The battles in the region between the Vistula and Wartha Rivers in Poland appear to have turned in favor of the Russians. A special dispatch from Petrograd to Paris says the Russian army already has won a decisive victory. While this may be an exaggeration both the Russian and the German official reports suggest that General von Hindenburg's second thrust at Warsaw has been checked.

Grand Duke Nicholas, commander-in-chief of the Russian forces, for two days in succession has recorded partial successes and the German General Staff says the arrival of Russian reinforcements has postponed a decision. Both sides have expressed the greatest confidence in the outcome. Grand Duke Nicholas and General von Hindenburg heretofore have been so successful in their strategy that their adherents look upon them as almost unbeatable.

The German papers were talking of a general Russian retirement despite the fact that the Russians have been advancing steadily in Galicia, have repulsed the Austro-German attack before Gracow, hold part of the German territory in East Prussia and oppose General von Hindenburg's advance on Warsaw. It is the same in Petrograd. All the correspondents there declare the Russian numbers must tell when the Germans have reached the ground on which Grand Duke Nicholas has chosen to give them battle.

While undertaking immense tasks in the east, the Germans according to all accounts, are preparing to launch another offensive movement in the west. Just where this is to be is known by the General Staff alone. It is believed here they will make another effort to go through to the French coast and perhaps at the same time try to force the line of French fortresses in the Argonne region.

The Germans have been violently bombarding Ypres in Flanders, Soissons in the Aisne and Rheims, while they have been attacking in force in the Argonne region. The French claim the Argonne assaults have been repulsed while the Germans say that they have been gaining ground steadily.

Any or all of this activity may be intended to divert attention from the quarter in which the supreme attack will be made, but the Allies are sure to discover soon where they must expect the next blow. To ward off the possibility of the Germans again trying to move along the coast the British fleet has been bombarding their positions from the sea.

Turkey, as usual reports victories over the Russians in the Caucasus and the British in Egypt, but these lack confirmation. The English have issued an account of successful British operations in the Persian Gulf territory.

British naval airmen, including Lieutenant Sippe, one of those who destroyed a Zeppelin shed at Dusseldorf before the Germans took Antwerp, have made a still more daring raid on French territory over Friedrichshafen. According to aviators' account they dropped bombs which damaged the Zeppelin factory at that place. One aeroplane was brought down by Germans but the others escaped damage.

Battle at Ypres.

Berlin.—Official communication issued by the general German army headquarters says:

"Fighting continues in Nieuport and at Ypres. A small British squadron twice approached the coast and was driven off by our artillery. The British naval guns had no effect."

Buildings Were Burned.

Paris.—The official French bulletin given out in Paris says that Ypres was subjected to a violent artillery fire and that many of the important buildings were consumed by the flames.

Bombs Were Effective.

London.—It was announced officially that the British aviators who recently raided Friedrichshafen on Lake Constance, report positively that all the bombs thrown by them reached their objective and that serious damage was done to the Zeppelin factory.

HANALEI HEPLESS WITH BACK BROKEN

OTHER VESSELS STAND BY THE WRECKED PASSENGER SCHOONER.

FIFTY-SEVEN WERE ABOARD

Crew of 30 and 27 Passengers in Position Which Holds Out Little Hope of Being Rescued.

San Francisco.—Five members of a crew of life-savers trying to reach the steamer schooner Hanalei, wrecked on Duxbury Reef, nine miles north of San Francisco, were drowned.

Two of the Hanalei's crew were drowned while trying to make their way through the surf with lines. Two passengers swam to safety.

Two of the Hanalei's boats upside down, and a life-raft also were washed on the beach. The steam schooner lay a few hundred yards off shore blanketed in the fog which led her on the reef and which shut off sight and sound alike.

Just at dusk a rift in the fog revealed a glimpse of the doomed vessel pounded by the surfs. The fog was so thick that persons five feet apart could not see each other and a little fleet of schooners and tugs which had been trying to get in touch with the Hanalei without themselves piling on the reef, drew off as night came on. One or two returned to San Francisco. A few remained near the scene, including the life-saving crews from Fort Point and Port Bonita in their launches.

Unless the fog should lift permitting rescuers to get a line aboard, it was said there was slight chance for any one aboard. The Hanalei left Eureka, Cal., the day before.

The revenue cutter McCulloch sent word by wireless that she was nosing about in the fog but could not locate the Hanalei.

The Richmond, another tanker; the United States distilling ship Rainbow and the tugs Hercules and Defiance also were at the scene.

It was reported that the first mate of the Richmond, with a crew of volunteers, had put off in a small boat to try to reach the schooner.

It is believed that besides the two whose bodies washed ashore, others drowned when the Hanalei tried to get her life boats away.

GARRISON OPPOSES EXPOSURE.

Secretary of War Tells Representative Gardner His Attitude.

Washington.—War department officials possess no information as to the state of the nation's defenses not already made public which they "feel free to disclose," according to a letter addressed by Secretary Garrison to Representative A. P. Gardner of Massachusetts. Mr. Gardner introduced a resolution, providing for congressional investigation of the military situation in the United States at the last session and had written the secretary regarding his appearance as witness at the proposed hearing. Mr. Garrison's letter says in part:

"I note that you express the hope that I would be the first witness before the committee, that Assistant Secretary Breckenridge will likewise consent to give his testimony and that you have invited a number of army officers to testify. I do not think it seems to offer myself to the committee, nor I believe the assistant secretary would think it proper for him so to do, and I feel sure that officers should not place themselves in the position of volunteering information or views to Congress or one of its committees."

"I am not standing on any question of technical procedure on insisting on any particular form of red tape method. I simply am endeavoring to do what seems to be the only wise and proper thing to do in any matter between one of the departments and congress. Until otherwise advised, I will not offer myself to the committee or approve of any one else under me doing so."

French-English Fear Mexican Crisis.

Washington.—Anxiety for the safety of British and French subjects and their interests in Mexico City brought Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, and Jules Jusserand, the French ambassador to the state department to learn what the American government knew of the situation in the Mexican capital. Reports to the state department showed conditions as having improved. Mr. Jusserand also inquired what disposition had been made of the \$1,000,000 customs duties collected by Americans

APPOINTMENTS OF M. P. CONFERENCE

BLUE RIDGE-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE CLOSES ANNUAL SESSION AT ASHEVILLE.

MEET NEXT YEAR AT NEWTON

Marching Orders of the Methodist Protestant Church Were Read By Bishop Henderson.

Asheville.—With the reading of the appointments for the coming year by Bishop Theodore S. Henderson, of Chattanooga, Tenn., the thirty-seventh annual session of the Blue Ridge-Atlantic Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church closed. Newton has been selected as the place of holding the next annual meeting, the invitation of the members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of that city being accepted. The appointments follow:

Clyde District.
Superintendent, Rev. W. A. Patton, Canton, N. C.

Asheville, Rev. F. W. Stanton, supply; Asheville circuit, Rev. F. A. L. Clark; Canton, Rev. W. C. Matney; Canton circuit, Rev. W. H. Pless; Clyde, Rev. W. A. Graybeal; Culberson, Rev. Van Buren Harrison; Ehowah, Rev. D. L. Barnhardt; Haynesville and Terasita, Rev. W. T. Clark; Leicester, Rev. W. H. Johnson; Old Fort, Rev. F. C. West; Pisgah, Rev. J. M. Fowler; Sylvia, Rev. T. H. Stamey; Unaka, Rev. J. H. Fine.

Coast District.
Superintendent, Rev. J. H. Warren, Washington, N. C.

Elizabeth City, Rev. W. R. Woodall; Hamlet, Rev. M. L. Morse; Harker's Island, Rev. O. L. Hawkins; Hassell, to be supplied; Hatteras, Rev. S. W. Johnson; Harshallberg, to be supplied; Morehead circuit, Rev. J. R. Warren; Morehead City, Rev. T. E. Pierce; Ocracoke, Rev. W. F. Graham; Parkville, Rev. J. M. Smith, supply; Parmele, Rev. J. L. Dennis; Pembroke, Rev. D. F. Lowery; Pinner, Rev. W. F. Miller; Rowland, to be supplied; Washington and Stokes, Rev. J. F. Matney; Washington circuit, Rev. Claude Clarke; Whaleyville, Rev. J. W. Chappell, supply.

Statesville District.
Superintendent, Rev. W. Q. A. Graham, Meisenheimer, N. C.

Albemarle, Rev. Z. V. Arthur; Caesar, Rev. D. D. Bailey; Chandlers, Rev. G. W. Williams; Charlotte, to be supplied; Deep River, Rev. D. A. Vuncannon; Forest City, Rev. T. A. Sisk, supply; Gastonia, Rev. S. B. Stephens; Harmony, Rev. W. J. Plint; Hickory, Rev. S. A. Earnhardt; Kannapolis, Rev. Y. D. Pool; Kings Mountain, Rev. E. A. Culp; Meisenheimer, Rev. Z. V. Arthur; Newton, Rev. W. F. Greene; Pine Bluff, Rev. T. N. Laine, supply; Statesville, Rev. C. M. White, supply; Troy, Rev. K. L. Haga; Walkertown, Rev. W. S. Moore.

Traphill District.
Superintendent, Rev. J. L. Stephenson, Traphill, N. C.

Altapass, to be supplied; Ararat, Rev. W. E. Icenhour; Bakersville, Rev. J. M. Heath; Boons, Rev. S. N. Bumgarner; Creston, Rev. U. A. Dry; Elkin, D. J. White; Lansing, Rev. J. M. Greene; Laurel Branch, Rev. J. M. Jamble; Montezuma, Rev. D. W. Tega; Pond Mountain, Rev. H. A. Blankenship, supply; Traphill, Rev. J. L. A. Bumgarner; Wilkesboro, Rev. J. M. W. Castle; Yadkin, Rev. J. M. Wall; Zion, Rev. M. A. Mathewson.

Rev. A. E. Brown, of the Creston Quarterly Conference, was named as agent of the American Bible Association. In making the appointments the bishop reminded the members of the Conference that Methodism is a denomination of itineracy and urged his hearers to receive their charges with a determination to spend a year in the furtherance of God's cause and a resolve to report at the Newton meeting that they have put forth their very best efforts. He thanked the members of the Conference for the many courtesies extended to him during his stay at Asheville and expressed pleasure that the past year has been one of unusual success.

Immediately following the night session, the bishop held a brief conference with the district superintendents. Nothing was given out as to the discussions at the conference, although it is thought that plans for the coming year were adopted.

At the Methodist Protestant Church Sunday an enthusiastic Sunday school session was conducted at 9:45 o'clock with visiting Sabbath school workers in attendance. The classes of the local Sabbath school were taught by visitors to the conference and many strong addresses made.