

# The Polk County News

VOL. XX. NO. 28.

SALUDA, POLK COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1914.

ESTABLISHED MAY, 1894.

## GERMANS DRIVEN BACK BY ALLIES

Forces Have Been Beaten Back Across The Yser By French And English

### THE DREADNAUGHT MINED

Superdreadnaught, Audacious, Struck Mine At Lough Swilly, On North Irish Coast

The allies are claiming to have repulsed the Germans and driven them back across the Yser. The London and Bordeaux war offices announce that the French and English troops are occupying advantageous positions on the left bank of the canal, from which the enemy for several days has put up a strong and vigorous defense.

While the Germans are conceded to have captured Dixmude, the French and British declare that it is now only a village reduced to ruins and in no way serve the enemy's interests nor assist in any way in their plans to reach Dunkirk on the French coast.

The British successes with the French on the continent have been somewhat offset by the loss of the superdreadnaught, Audacious, which struck a mine at Lough Swilly, off the north coast, and was rendered helpless in only a few moments. Most of the crew of the Audacious were rescued up by the White Star liner, Olympic, which came to the rescue in very seas.

The Russians announce at Petrograd that they have made rapid advances in their invasion of Prussia. Austria will push her forces against Serbia to end the Balkan phase of the war. British East Indian troops assisted by the cruiser, Duke of Edinburgh, have captured Turkish positions at Turia. The London admiral's offices also announce the successful capture of the Turkish garrison of Bah-Said on the Strait of Babel-Mandeb at the entrance of the gulf of Aden.

British mercantile shipping greatly increased during the past week and marine insurance rates in London were cut nearly in half as the result of the capture of the German ships Emden and Konigsberg off the coast. The Emden alone had a record of capturing or destroying 22 British trading vessels, and these German warships had made life miserable for British shipping on the high seas. The allies have been able to fight their own against the Germans on the Yser river in the north of France, and the Kaiser's armies are nearer to the French seacoast than they were a week ago.

The most important development of the past week in the European war has been the campaign of the Russians against the Germans in the east. Here the Russians have surprised the world with their ability to follow up the retreat of the Germans in Poland and a great danger of a German invasion of Germany is being averted in that direction. After about two months of apparent idleness in Prussia the invading armies of the allies are again taking the offensive so far the Germans have been unable to check their advance.

The allies in France and Belgium are very much elated over the success of the campaign of the Russians in the east. They are hoping that the Russian armies will prove such a menace that it will be necessary for the Germans to withdraw a portion of the troops in France to protect their own rear in the east. Should the German army be compelled to do this it would mean that the allies would have a great number of reserves to force the Germans to retreat within their own border in the west.

British Airmen Fly Over England.—According to information sent out to the press in official quarters German aviators have flown over English seaports of Sheerness and Kent. Sheerness is a fortified seaport in Kent, at the mouth of the River Mersey. It is about forty miles from Harwich in Essex and is seventy miles northeast of London.

British Warship Off Colon.—The movements of three British warships less than fifty miles from the coast of the West Indies are being watched with interest by canal zone officials. It is reported that the ships are the cruisers, Berwick and Lancaster, respectively in the West Indies searching for German ships. It is thought that the Japanese fleet of war in the Pacific endeavor to destroy the German cruisers which recently sank the Japanese ship Good Hope and Monmouth off the coast of Chile.

## FOR THOSE IN PEACE



NOTE—The Noble peace prize fund has been dedicated to Belgian relief work.

### Allies Drive Back Germans

Paris.—The Germans have again been driven back across the Yser and the positions on the left bank of the canal, from which the enemy has for several days put up a vigorous and determined resistance, now are in the hands of the French and English.

This news is accepted in Paris as proof that the tide of battle in the north of France continues to favor the allies. The powerful but futile German attack in the vicinity of Ypres also is officially declared to have cost the enemy thousands of casualties and many prisoners.

One detachment of 120 Germans captured is declared to have been all that remained of 1,000 men who had started the fight. Some of the prisoners, it is said, declared that companies of the Russian Guard and of the Second Bavarian corps, brought up to full war strength of 250 men early in November, were reduced to 50 to 100 men.

The official report says the progress of the allies was very slow, but continuous.

"The most notable incident of the attack has been the throwing back of the enemy on the right bank of the Yser canal. That part of the left bank, which the Germans previously held, has been completely evacuated. We have retaken to the south of Bixchoote a small wood, which had been lost following a night attack. At the end of the day the enemy had shown, without success, an offensive to the south of Ypres. The Germans, however again attempted several attacks to the north, east and south of Ypres. They were all repulsed with considerable losses to them. To sum up: "All the efforts made by the Germans during the last several days have resulted only in the capture of the ruined village of Dixmude, whose isolated position on the right bank of the canal rendered its defense difficult. Between the Lys and the Oise trench fighting has continued upon the greater part of the front. Upon the remainder of the front, so far as Lorraine and in the Vosges, there was detached military firing or minor actions without importance."

Fighting continues in East Prussia and other regions in the east between the Russians and the Germans and Austrians, but apparently, without decisive result.

### Russians in East Prussia

A battle of some proportions is going on between the Russians and Turks at Kopruckel, in the Caucasus, the result of which may have a marked bearing on the war in that part of the world.

### Turkish Transports Are Sunk

London.—An official dispatch from Constantinople reaching London by way of Berlin, confirms indirectly the recent Russian statement that a Russian fleet had sunk three Turkish transports in the Black sea. The Constantinople report admits that there has been no news of these ships since they left the Turkish capital a week ago. It adds that as the vessels were near Soguldak, on the Black sea, the day this place was bombarded, it is possible that they were attacked by the Russian squadron.

### Audacious At The Bottom Of Sea

London.—After a career of less than two years, the superdreadnaught, Audacious, of the King George V class—third in tonnage and armament of his majesty's warships—lies at the bottom of the ocean off the north coast of Ireland at Lough Swilly. She was hit by a torpedo or disabled by a mine just before nine o'clock on the morning of October 27. With the possible exception of one or two men the whole crew of 800 officers and men was rescued by small boats from the Olympic. The rescue was made in a rough sea through brilliant and daring seamanship on the part of the White Star crew.

### Additional Million Men Wanted

London.—England is beginning to learn the cost of the European war. A White Paper shows that the government intends to ask parliament for \$1,125,000,000, which, with their \$500,000,000 voted at the last session, is expected to be Great Britain's bill for the financial year ending March 31. Of this sum, however, a small part has been loaned to Belgium and Serbia, and some will be used to assist the dominions and the allies to make their financial arrangements. A portion of the money also will be required for the additional million men

### Germans Prepare To Resist

Paris.—Havas' Petrograd correspondent telegraphs: "News that the retreating German troops have occupied all defiles east of the Mazurian lakes, East Prussia, where they have placed heavy artillery, has led to the conclusion that they intend to resist the Russians tenaciously in that region. The Germans hope that here the shock of the Russians will be broken. Throughout all Prussia railway passenger traffic has been suspended. The lines are transporting only troops, apparently with a view to new concentration, said to have been decided by a recent council of the Austro-German general staffs at Cracow. This council is reported to have decided to change complete the plan of battle."

### Allies Holding Their Own

London.—The correspondent of The Times in France sends the following regarding the fighting on the Aisne: "On the whole, the allies have the advantage. The French capture of Questey-en-Santerre was a good deal bigger affair than reported. On the other hand, the enemy's accounts of a great victory at Vally were exaggerated. They obtained a temporary advantage, but the allies have more than regained the original positions."

### Concessions Offered Roumania

Venice.—It is stated here that Count Tisza, the Hungarian premier, has promised political concessions to Roumanians in Austria in return for Roumanian aid in the war. Among the concessions alleged to have been promised are complete amnesty for all political offenders, permission to use and display the Roumanian national colors, a revision of the franchise laws, which will assure to Roumanians adequate representation in elective bodies and in parliament and a reform of school laws.

## WINTER PARALYZED TROOP MOVEMENTS

IN BOTH EAST AND WEST ARMIES ARE IN CLUTCHES OF COLD WAVE.

### YOUNG BOYS SHOW COURAGE

German Untrained Youths Do Not Hesitate To March Against The Trained English Soldiery.

London.—Winter has partly paralyzed troop movements in both the East and West.

The Russians on the border of East Prussia are reported entrenching through snow, clad in sheep-skin jackets similar to those the Japanese first wore in Manchuria. Blizzards had swept the trenches in Belgium and Northern France, bringing great suffering. A large area of West Flanders around Dixmude has been flooded by the heavy rains.

The French and German reports are contradictory as to events in the West. Berlin says there was only slight activity because of the snow-storm. Paris announced the Germans, attempting to cross the canal near Dixmude, were thrust back, while the Allies re-captured several strategic points, repulsed two German attacks, southeast of Ypres, and "entirely destroyed" a German regiment south of Bixchoote. An observer with the British army announces that German attempts to batter a wedge through the British lines have decreased greatly in force the past few days and that they bear no resemblance to attacks in great force launched against Ypres at the end of October. They are more in the nature of demonstrations in force than serious assaults, he declares.

The writer pays high tribute to the bravery of raw German youths and untrained men of middle age, who he says, do not hesitate to march against the trained British troops.

If the Germans have abandoned their furious battering ram efforts to thrust back the Allies' lines and reach Calais, their failure will constitute a distinct victory for the Allies, it is asserted here, because the Allies have not tried to accomplish more than to hold their own on the defensive.

Petrograd reports the Russian campaign developing favorably in East Prussia. From other sources it is reported the inhabitants are fleeing before the menace of a second invasion. On the Polish frontier and in Galicia two enormous armies are massing for a battle which may decide the fortunes of the war in the East.

The possibility is being discussed that the Austrians may abandon Cracow without defense rather than submit the city to a destructive bombardment.

### ENGLAND WILL INCREASE ARMY

Asquith Asks Commons For Million Men And \$1,125,000,000.

London.—The meeting of the House of Commons was devoted entirely to war measures. The house granted without a dissenting vote Premier Asquith's request for a vote for 225,000,000 pounds (\$1,125,000,000) and another 1,000,000 soldiers.

The condition and morals of the soldiers, the inevitable spy system and press censorship were discussed freely.

The prime minister characterized the crisis as "the greatest emergency in which the country has ever been placed." He said 1,200,000 men already were under arms; that the war was costing nearly \$5,000,000 a day and that the government proposed to lend Belgium \$50,000,000 and Serbia \$4,000,000 without interest, until the end of the war.

Timothy Healy, the Irish Nationalist, said the money should be given those nations.

Judge Hodges, the Labor member for Lancashire, endorsed the proposal with the suggestion: "Later on we can collect it from the German emperor."

Reginald McKenna, secretary for home affairs, informed the house that there were 4,383 alien enemies in British concentration camps.

Long and Healy and Lord Charles Beresford discussed the question of publicity and urged that the country should be given fuller details of achievements of troops in the field.

William Henry Cowan, Liberal, proposed that Great Britain follow Russia's example and prohibit the sale of liquor during the war.

Mr. Healy demanded greater liberality in dealing with the dependents of the soldiers.

## GERMANS PREPARE FOR COLD MONTHS

EXCESSIVE RAINS; LITTLE FIGHTING OF COSEQUENCE OCCURS IN FLANDERS.

### TURKS AND RUSSIANS GRIP

Nothing Official Comes From Dixmude, Both Germans and Allies Claiming Success.

London.—After four weeks of most desperate fighting, there is a lull in the battle in Flanders.

Little relief, however, has come for the men in the trenches, as the artillery and rifle fire has been replaced by a severe November storm.

In some parts of England the storm has become a blizzard. On the sea a heavy gale rages, and the battlefields are getting their full share of wind and rain.

For the most part the opposing armies have been content to shell each other at long ranges, but the Germans have made several attacks around Ypres, which according to the French general staff, have been repulsed with heavy losses.

It is not believed that the Germans have any intention of giving up their attempt to reach the French coast, and the Allies are making elaborate preparations to block any further advance in force.

Extensive defense works have been erected along the Yser Canal, and the French armies are holding that line from the Belgian border south to the river Oise, and passing forward approach works which place them in a better position for either defense or offense.

The Germans report that they have taken a few hundred British and French prisoners, but that the unfavorable weather has impeded their progress. Concerning Dixmude the public must rely on unofficial reports.

It is said the Germans are finding the destroyed village a death trap. They have been unable to debouch from it in the day time, as all the approaches are commanded by the Allies' guns, and night attacks have met with disaster.

The fact is apparent that neither side has made any significant advance, both being so well entrenched that neither artillery nor infantry can move them.

The Germans are turning Belgium into a fortress, which means that if they do not succeed in advancing they intend to be prepared to winter there.

The whole coast from Ostend to the Dutch border has been placed in a state of defense and civilians are rigorously excluded from that area.

A battle of some proportions is going on between the Russians and Turks at Kopruckel, in the Caucasus, the result of which may have a marked bearing on the war in that part of the world. Elsewhere in the Near East, there has been no engagement of importance.

### LORD ROBERTS IS DEAD.

England's Most Popular Soldier Succumbs to Pneumonia.

London.—The death of Field Marshal Lord Roberts has been officially announced. Lord Roberts died in France, where he had been visiting the Indian troops. His death was due to pneumonia.

The news of the death of Field Marshal Roberts was received by telegraph from Field Marshal Sir John French.

A telegram from Sir John French apprised Earl Kitchener, Secretary of state for war, of the death of England's great soldier, in the following words:

"I deeply regret to tell you that Lord Roberts died this (Saturday) evening.

Field Mahshal Roberts, who was colonel in chief of the Indian troops, had gone to France to greet them. Soon after his arrival he became seriously ill. He suffered from a severe chill and pneumonia rapidly developed. His great age, 82 years, mitigated against his recovery, the crisis in the disease coming quickly.

### Situation in the East.

England, it is announced, has no intention of undertaking any military or war operations in Arabia, except for protection of Arabian interests against Turkey or other aggression, or in support of attempts by the Arabs to free themselves from Turkish rule.

The Servians and Montenegrins who started out to invade Bosnia and Herzegovina and were at one time approaching the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo, are now back in their own territory, and they are offering a stubborn resistance to the Austrians.

## 12 REGIONAL BANKS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD ALREADY READY BUSY FORMING PLANS FOR EXPANSION.

### IMMENSE STORE OF CASH

All of the Federal Reserve Banks Are Opened and Make Favorable Report of Day's Business.

Washington.—Although the 12 Federal reserve banks have just begun business, the Federal Reserve Board already has before it plans for widening their field of operations, and increasing their store of cash. No definite data as to the business done was available, but Secretary Willis telegraphed each bank for an account of its re-discount business and expected to lay a report before the board.

The board may not be willing to draw definite plans from one day's business, but the first week may have a material effect and may result in augmenting the cash of the banks by more than \$150,000,000. The board has under consideration the deposit of a large part of the loose cash now in the Treasury, and the transfer of most of the government funds now deposited in National banks. If the first week's re-discount business shows that the reserve banks can use more cash, the board probably will suggest the adoption of this plan. It has been reported to the board that there is about \$110,000,000 in the Treasury available for this purpose and that about \$64,000,000 of the \$79,000,000 now in banks on deposit for the government could be transferred.

The board made public a circular defining time deposits as "including any deposit subject to check, on which the bank has the right by written contract with the depositor or at the time of deposit to require not less than 30 days notice before any part of it may be withdrawn. Any agreement with a depositor not to enforce the terms of such a contract shall vitiate the contract. The Postoffice Department has notified postmasters that no postal savings funds shall be deposited in banks not members of the Federal reserve system, and instructing them to discontinue deposits in such non-member banks.

President Wilson received many telegrams conveying congratulations on the opening of the new system.

### CARRANZA OFFERS TO RESIGN.

Reported That First Chief of the Constitutionalists Will Leave After Election.

Washington.—Peace in Mexico after weeks of dissension among the generals of the victorious constitutionalists army, at last seemed in sight according to messages from United States Government agents to the Southern Republic.

Soon after American Consul Silliman telegraphed from Mexico City early in the day that hostilities between the forces of the Aguas Calientes convention and those loyal to Carranza had ceased, came a message from Leon Canova, special agent of the American Government at Aguas Calientes, stating that General Carranza had telegraphed his intention of resigning.

Secretary Bryan made public Canova's message, but did not comment on it. Although the dispatch was delayed in reaching here from no other source in Mexico had come word of a similar nature. Previous messages, however, had described the efforts of the various generals to reach a compromise and officials thought it not unlikely that in the interest of domestic peace, both Generals Carranza and Villa would leave Mexico while the National Government was being reorganized.

It was suggested in some quarters that Eulalio Gutierrez, the new provisional President, might name Villa to a foreign military mission, perhaps as an observer in the European war. Carranza, it is believed, may visit the United States.

### Tone of Commerce Improves.

Washington.—The pulse of the Nation's foreign commerce is showing steady improvement, according to the daily telegraphic statements received by Secretary McAdoo from the ten leading ports of entry. Import business of one day recently, based on reports from ports handling 87 per cent of all imports, amounted to \$2,330,512; exports from these ports, handling 72 per cent of all exports, amounted to \$10,421,551. The daily average for these ports in November, 1913, was imports \$4,923,397, exports \$6,983,426.