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ESTABLISHED MAY, 1894.

GERMANS CAPTURE BIG STRONGHOLD

Lodz, Second Polish City of Size And Importance, Falls Into Teutonic Hands

VICTORY AFTER HARD SIEGE

Berlin Admits Allies Have Gained Ground In West—Russians Push Across Hungary

London.—Lodz, the second city of Poland and lying 75 miles to the west of southwest of Warsaw, has fallen to the German arms. The enemy now occupies it, according to an official announcement from Berlin.

Around this important town a desperate battle has raged for days. Countless thousands have fallen in desperate hand-to-hand conflicts and from the shells of hundreds of guns.

Lodz long has been an objective point of the German army. It has grown in recent years from an insignificant place to one of the most populous cities in the Russian empire. In 1910 its population numbered 415,604 and with this important place as a base the Germans are expected to make a strong effort to reach Warsaw. The railways of northern Poland center in Lodz.

Campaign in Austria
The capture of an advance position at Przemyśl is regarded as conferring a valuable advantage to the Russians in their attack on the fortress. Leaving this city to the attention of the besieging armies, the Russians are pushing in small bodies steadily across the plains of Hungary and fugitives are said to be pouring toward Budapest.

In the face of the Austrian advance in Serbia there has been talk of the removal of the capital from Nish to Mitrovitz, but Serbia denies that this step actually has been taken.

Germans Lose in West
The allies continue to push forward in Flanders and in northern France, but the Germans explain they are giving ground for tactical and strategic reasons. The advance, as far as Flanders is concerned, seems to have been checked on the outskirts of Langemarch.

ROUMANIA JOINS ALLIES

Another Enemy Enlisted Against The Austro-German-Turkish Combination

Geneva.—The Journal de Geneve publishes a dispatch from Bucharest, saying Roumania has definitely decided to enter the war on the side of the allies. This decision, according with the wishes of the entire country, including King Ferdinand and all the Roumanian statesmen, except the minister of finance, M. Marghileman.

The question of when Roumania will make her entry in the conflict is still being discussed, however, one side desiring to avoid a winter campaign, but the military authorities express the fear that Serbia may be defeated before spring.

The attitude of Bulgaria remains very doubtful. Greece, Serbia and Roumania have proffered certain concessions, which, however, Sofia seems not to consider a sufficient inducement.

CONGRESS CONVENES

Third Session Of Sixty-Third Congress Opened—Will Pass Cotton Bill

Washington.—The third session of the Sixty-third congress was convened Tuesday noon. Members of both houses flocked to Washington, ending their holiday recess of six weeks which followed the long session that closed late in October.

Democratic leaders unanimously express the hope that the legislative program of appropriation measures can be concluded by March 4, next, when the present congress, automatically, will end. Many Republican leaders, however, have said they would urge many important measures and some indicated that supply bills ought to be delayed to such an extent that an extra session next spring and summer would be necessary. Democrats think an extra session unlikely.

Villa-Zapata Forces In Charge

El Paso, Texas.—Eulalio Gutierrez, provisional president of Mexico, with Generals Villa and Zapata, formally occupied the capital section of Mexico City, according to a report given out officially by Villa agents here. No press dispatches have arrived from the south during the last few days. George C. Carothers, representative of the American state department, reported from Mexico City that he entered the capital and was the guest of the Brazilian minister, who has been looking after the interests of the U. S.

JOHN L. BILLARD



John L. Billard, a well-known financier of the East, is one of the directors of the New Haven road who were indicted for alleged illegal monopolization of the New England railroads.

POINCARE RECEIVES SHARP

FRENCH PRESIDENT GREETED NEW AMERICAN ENVOY WITH ALL HONORS

New American Ambassador To France Rode In State Carriage To Present Credentials

Paris.—William Graves Sharp, the new American ambassador, presented his credentials to President Poincare. The ceremony was attended by the usual formalities. A detachment of mounted republican guards escorted the state carriage in which the ambassador rode from his hotel to the residence of the president and back again.

In conveying to the government and the people of France, in the most cordial terms, the best wishes of the president of the United States, Ambassador Sharp alluded to the war.

"During my sojourn among the French people," he said, "I have come to have an added regard for their exemplification of brave and patriotic citizenship. In expressing the earnest hope that out of the trials of the present hour may soon come the blessings of everlasting and beneficent peace, I but voice the prayers of my countrymen."

FRANK AGAIN REJECTED

United States Supreme Court Denied Leo Frank's Petition To File Writ Of Error

Washington.—Leo M. Frank's petition to file a writ of error with the United States Supreme court was denied by the court. This is understood to exhaust Frank's legal remedies, and leaves the state prison board and the governor of Georgia the only power remaining to prevent his execution.

If the petition had been granted by the Supreme court, it would only have given the case standing in court; the writ of error itself would then have to be passed upon. By the adverse decision, this writ was not permitted to be submitted to the court.

To Resentment Frank

Atlanta.—Now that a decision has been reached in Washington, preparations are being made in the solicitor's office for the resentencing of Frank. This will take place soon. Judge Ber Hill will preside. It is rumored that application will be made both to Governor Slaton and the Georgia state board of pardons.

Servians Losing Hold

Washington.—Austro-Hungarian successes along the entire line in Serbia, which have resulted in the Serbs being driven from the banks of the Calubara river, and a successful sortie from the fortress of Przemyśl were reported in Vienna official dispatches to the Austro-Hungarian embassy. The dispatch said: "In Serbia the enemy, resisting with all its forces on the east of the river Calubara and Ljida, after a most obstinate fight on the whole line, was beaten. The enemy retired with considerable losses. Since the beginning of the last offensive we have captured 19,000."

British Flood Suez

Cairo.—The British military authorities have flooded the desert east of Port Said for many miles, thus preventing a Turkish attack in that quarter. Port Said lies at the southern end of the Suez canal, where the canal joins the Mediterranean sea. It is located upon the edge of the Arab desert, which covers all the northern part of Sinai peninsula. British military aeroplanes are making constant flights over the Sinai peninsula. They report seeing no sign of the Turks. It is believed that the Turkish advance

RUSSIANS CLAIM GREAT VICTORY

Slavonic Hosts Announce That They Have Won Decisive Battle Over Germans

PORTUGAL MAY ENTER WAR

Inactivity Marked In Western War Theater—Kaiser Returns From Polish Front

London, England.—Reliable news of the progress of the battle in Poland, which continues to monopolize interest, still is lacking. An unofficial dispatch from Petrograd says the battle of Lodz has ended in success for the Russians, but this statement contradicts the Berlin official report, which says the German offensive in Poland is taking its normal course.

The fact is that fighting in this region has developed into such a jumble that it is almost impossible to follow it. The most important factor from the allies' point is that the German advance on Warsaw seemingly has not succeeded in its object, nor has it diverted the Russians from their forward movement through the Carpathians and on to the plains of Hungary or against the fortress of Cracow, around which they are drawing a closer ring of men and artillery.

Taking into consideration the case of Przemyśl, which has held out so long against the Russian attacks, military men do not look for the early fall of Cracow, and are inclined to believe armies of Emperor Nicholas will endeavor to keep the large Austrian force inside the fortress and enter Silesia from the southeast.

Much depends, however, on the battle being fought with such intensity farther north between the rivers Vistula and Warta and in which all agree the losses on both sides have been heavy. There is an inclination to believe that had there been probability of an early success for the Germans in the field Emperor William, who has returned to Berlin, would have remained to witness the victory.

The battle in the west appears to be at a standstill. It is evident that attacks which have been made have not met with much success.

CRITICISE BURLESON

Civil Service Reformers Criticise Postmaster General and Praise President Wilson

Chicago.—Resolutions unanimously adopted by the National Civil Service Reform League in its thirty-fourth annual meeting criticized Postmaster General Burleson and expressed the appreciation of the league for the co-operation of President Wilson.

The Burleson criticism was for inviting the advice of congressmen relative to the comparative qualifications of eligibles for fourth-class postmasterships. "The resolution declared that this was 'in direct violation of a section of the civil service law and made the positions patronage of the congressmen belonging to the party in power.'"

Among the efforts mentioned as having defeated "the attempt by rider on the postoffice appropriation bill to remove all assistant postmasters from the classified service, the endeavor to vacate for patronage purposes the assistant postmasterships; a subsequent effort to remove all postoffice employees from the operation of the merit system; the proposed through amendments to the Indian appropriation bill to exempt more than 100 physicians from selection under civil service rules."

The resolution set forth the league's appreciation of the "co-operation of President Wilson in securing the defeat of these measures."

Portugal Enters War

Madrid, Spain.—It is reported from Lisbon that the Portuguese cabinet has resigned, preparatory to Portugal entering the war. A Portuguese expeditionary force is leaving for an unnamed port in Africa. It is understood that this force is being sent to Egypt, where England is massing a large force of Anstrallians, Canadians and native troops to meet the Turks who are menacing the Suez canal.

Awful Suffering Of Belgians

London.—Herbert Clark Hoover, chairman of the American commission for relief in Belgium, returned to London after a week's trip of inspection in Belgium. He reported that distribution of food is well under way, but declared famine still threatens the population and that on account of the attitude of the belligerents the Belgians must still appeal to the people of the United States for relief. "It is difficult to state the position of the civil population of Belgium without appearing hysterical," said Hoover.

CAPT. W. W. HILL



Captain Hill, who commanded the marines at Vera Cruz at the beginning of the American occupation, is reported to have criticized the action of the government in withdrawing the troops from that city and was called on by Secretary Daniels to make a written explanation. Captain Hill said his remarks were made in private conversation.

OPPOSED TO GARDNER PROBE

CONGRESSMEN FITZGERALD AND SHERLEY OPPOSE GARDNER'S PLAN FOR NAVY PROBE.

Gardner's Assertions That New York's Defenses Are Antiquated Declared Incorrect

Washington.—Opposition to Representative Gardner's resolution for an investigation by a commission into the preparedness of the United States for war was expressed to President Wilson by Representatives Fitzgerald and Sherley, ranking members of the house appropriations committee. Both told the president they were preparing to speak on the subject in the house.

"I am against any spectacular investigation into this subject," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "All the facts are available now, and through hearings before a regular committee and debate on the floor the question will be thoroughly reviewed."

Mr. Sherley told the president that statements attributed to Mr. Gardner that the defenses of New York were antiquated were incorrect. He declared the fortifications of the United States were in excellent shape and added that army officers had informed him that the defenses at New York could destroy any attacking fleet. The president will go into the question further with Mr. Gardner and Senator Tillman, chairman of the senate naval committee.

St. Louis.—Augustus P. Gardner, congressman from Massachusetts, in an address before the Contemporary club, replied to Secretary Daniels' statement regarding recent assertions of Mr. Gardner as to the inadequacy of American naval and military preparations.

"I state without fear of successful contradiction," he said, "that the big guns on the latest dreadnaughts of Great Britain and Germany are of such long range that the battleships can stand a mile and a half outside the range of the guns on the fortifications of New York and demolish those forts."

"Secretary Daniels," said Mr. Gardner, "has given out a special report from Admiral Strauss to prove misleading my declaration 'that of long range torpedoes there are only 58 in the navy.'"

Mr. Gardner has an appointment to discuss the matter of a congressional inquiry with President Wilson. By request of the president Mr. Gardner will see him alone.

Vote Big War Credit

Berlin.—With one dissenting vote, that of Herr Liebknecht, Socialist, the reichstag voted a new war credit of \$1,250,000,000.

Italian Parliament Watched

Rome.—The Italian parliament reassembled and its deliberations are awaited with anxiety as this is considered the gravest moment for Italy since unification. Four hundred and fifty deputies and 300 senators are in Rome to attend the session. Premier Salandra, presenting the new cabinet, will make a statement concerning the ministerial policy. It will deal with Italy's attitude toward the war and premier will explain the reasons that actuate the government in maintaining "armed and watchful neutrality."

DEBATE MILITARY POWER OF NATION

APPARENTLY INVESTIGATION OF PREPAREDNESS FOR WAR TO BE MADE BY CONGRESS.

OPPOSE THE COMMISSION

Wilson Is Willing That Regular Congressional Committees Shall Go Thoroughly Into the Matter.

Washington.—Preparedness of the United States for war seems destined for investigation in Congress. Several bills and resolutions bearing on the subject were introduced and an inquiry by congressional committees is regarded at the capitol as certain, although President Wilson told Representative Gardner during the day that he opposed the latter's plan for an investigation by a national security commission. The president expressed the opinion that this would be an unwise way of handling "a question which might create very unfavorable international impressions."

Senator Lodge introduced a resolution similar to the Gardner measure pending in the house. It would provide for a "national security commission" to be composed of three members of the senate, three members of the house and three citizens to be appointed by the president.

President Wilson let it be known after his conference with Representative Gardner that he was entirely in favor of the fullest inquiry into military conditions by regular committees of the house and senate and added that there were no facts in possession of the executive departments which were not at the disposal of those committees. "In line with this attitude Senator James Hamilton Lewis, Democratic whip, who introduced a resolution which would direct an exhaustive inquiry by the senate military and naval committees into the expenditure of millions of dollars appropriated in the past for national defense. The inquiry would be directed to ascertain just what had been provided by the expenditure of late years and also to ascertain actual military conditions. The resolution was referred to the committee on military affairs.

Another military measure, submitted by Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, proposed the creation of a council of national defense to consist of the secretary of state as president, the secretaries of war and navy, the chairman of appropriation, military, naval and foreign relations committees of the senate and house, the chief of staff of the army and an officer of the navy and heads of the army and navy war colleges.

ZAPATA JOINS WITH VILLA.

Work Together Until Work is Accomplished Then Each Will Retire.

Mexico City, via El Paso, Texas.—Generals Villa and Zapata, after a conference at Xochimilco, announced publicly that they would work together and that each would retire to private life when their work was accomplished.

After the conference General Villa said that his forces would begin immediately a vigorous campaign against Carranza. The forces of Villa and Zapata will enter Mexico City soon. An active campaign will begin within a week by both the Villa and Zapata forces, according to the statements of a high official of the present government. The plan calls for the sending of four strong columns to attack the followers of Carranza. Villa took over the railway of an English corporation running between the Capital and Vera Cruz.

The civil and military convention will meet next week in the Capitol to approve these plans, and appoint new provisional officials. It is reported that a new provisional president will be elected on this occasion.

Jews in German Army.

Berlin, via wireless to London.—It was announced officially that 26 Jews had received commissions in the German army.

French Attacks More Vigorous.

Paris.—The French War Office gave out an official communication as follows:

"In the region of Armentieres and of Arras, as well as in the Oise territory, in the Aisne region and in the Argonne there is nothing to report except to refer in general terms to the superiority of our offensive.

"In Champagne our heavy artillery on several different occasions has shown marked superiority over that of the enemy."

NATION'S EXPENSE EXCEEDS BILLION

ESTIMATES OFFERED TO CONGRESS FOR YEAR 1915 TOTAL \$1,090,775,134.

ALL EXPENSES ARE REDUCED

Seek an Appropriation of Over Three Million For Maintenance of Waterways and Harbors.

Washington.—Estimates presented to congress put the cost of conducting the government during the fiscal year 1915, which begins on July 1, next, at \$1,090,775,134.

This sum is \$3,392,962 less than the congressional appropriations for the current fiscal year ending next June 30th and \$17,906,643 less than the estimates for the current year.

Without salary increases of any kind, no estimates whatever for new public buildings and all items reduced by order of President Wilson to what departmental heads consider the minimum, the estimates represent the administration's effort to keep the governmental expenditures within its income which has been decreased by the European war. By grand divisions the estimates submitted are as follows:

- Legislative establishment, \$7,641,049.
- Executive establishment, \$31,845,889.
- Judicial establishment, \$1,240,580.
- Department of agriculture, \$20,706,013.
- Postal service, \$297,355,164.
- Foreign intercourse, \$4,607,132.
- Military establishments, \$105,866,849.
- Naval establishment, \$142,619,003.
- Indian affairs, \$9,533,463.
- Pensions, \$166,100,000.
- Panama canal, \$18,931,865.
- Public works, \$97,917,541.
- Miscellaneous, \$32,843,325.
- Permanent annual appropriations, \$121,567,207.

With the expectation that the postal service will continue to be self-sustaining the postal item of \$297,355,164 will be deducted as it is returned to the treasury from postal earnings leaving the actual total of expenditures at \$793,419,970.

As there is such a comparatively small change in the estimates there is also comparatively little change in the items of fixed charges and new estimates for expenditures have been reduced to the minimum. While the rule is one of reductions, the army and navy establishment alone show increases of any note. The army estimate is increased to \$105,866,850 as against a current appropriation of \$101,977,802; the naval estimate is \$142,619,033 against a current appropriation of \$141,393,217.

Estimates for the legislative establishment include salaries and expenses of congress.

WARSHIP KANSAS STORMBEATEN

Storm Creates Havoc on Atlantic Seaboard Thrilling Rescues.

Washington.—The United States battleship Kansas was identified as the mysterious vessel which coast guard officials at Ocean City, Md, reported stranded there and which later disappeared without leaving a clue to its identity.

Captain Bryan of the Kansas wireless the navy department that his vessel took refuge from the storm off Ocean City and suggested that as no other vessel was in that vicinity the Kansas must have been the warship reported in distress.

The captain said his ship had not been damaged. The vessel was not in distress, he said. Captain Bryan reported from Delaware breakwaters, where the Kansas arrived. A wireless was sent to the revenue cutter Itasca which had gone to aid the strange ship ordering her back to Norfolk.

Leo Frank Refused Trial.

Washington.—The supreme court refused to issue a writ to review Leo M. Frank's conviction of the murder of Mary Phagan, an Atlanta factory girl.

The Storm at Norfolk

Norfolk, Va.—Cape Charles lightship has been towed to the navy yard here by the buoy tender Orchid. The lightship went adrift in the recent storm. Both the Cape Charles and the Nantucket lightships are off their stations and the government wireless is warning navigation of the fact. The old United States freighter Constellation, which was in danger of grounding off Virginia Beach is now safe at the navy yard here. The wind off the coast was 42 miles an hour and the tides very high.