

THE COURIER

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Friday, June 11, 1915

THE SITUATION.

The Russians would appear to have put a crimp in the steady German advance. Berlin in its official report states that in one direction the foe "offered strong resistance" and that "the enemy brought forward reinforcements from a northeasterly direction in opposition to our encircling movement on the east of the Dubysa. On account of this menace our wing was withdrawn."

The French report is cheerful in tone, and the men of the land of the fleur-de-lis continue to demonstrate the quality of dogged stubbornness in fighting with which their names were not always previously associated. Brilliant dashes used to be their long suit.

The Italians continue to follow success with success in what sounds somewhat like easy fashion, but it may be taken for granted that they will have some strenuous headway to make ere very long.

Heavy fighting continues on the Gallipoli peninsula, with nothing of a decisive nature to report.

The sinking of two British torpedo boats off the coast of England yesterday does not make pleasant reading. One critic advances the opinion that there will be wigs on the green over the incident, because there can be no seeming explanation for boats of over 26 knots falling victims to an underwater craft of only 12 knots. To which it is sufficient to make answer that the comparison does not begin to hold good when it is remembered that there is nothing to prevent a submarine from laying in wait.

WILSON'S SECOND NOTE.

The second note sent by President Wilson to Berlin with reference to the sinking of the Lusitania is not in any sense a bellicose or chip-on-the-shoulder document. To the direct contrary it is filled with the desire to avoid a rumpus, a thing which from the very first the present occupant of the White House has done his best to sidestep. At the same time, there is a clear-cut tone about it which is commendable.

The Kaiserites made the bluff that the Lusitania was an armed vessel, and carried soldiers, and so on. The President makes short work of that by pointing out that she was under rigid inspection before starting from New York, and that she was in every sense what she purported to be, a non-combatant craft, engaged in the peaceful pursuit of carrying passengers. He points out that in this regard the "Imperial German Government" was "misinformed." Fabricated would have more nearly hit the mark. The note calls upon the Emperor and his war lords to exercise "justice and humanity," just as if they knew what the terms meant.

However, amid it all the issue is clearly put to Berlin that she must either sanction or disown the action of the submarine responsible for the tragedy. If not—well, who can tell what Wilson will do next?

TOOTH BRUSH DAY

The modern world has seen all kinds of days except "Fathers Day"—he doesn't count—and the latest move in this regard across the border is "Tooth Brush Day."

Recently the children of the public schools of New York city went through their exercises in this regard. The entire week was Hygienic Week, and was devoted to the scrubbing of teeth and dental hygiene.

At 9 o'clock the children were taught what first aid to the teeth means and the serious results of neglecting them. This was done by trained specialists, prominent dentists of the city, 150 of whom volunteered to aid the Board of Education. They spoke for an hour in the schools.

Friday, Tooth Brush Day, saw drills in every school immediately after the opening of the afternoon session. The actual demonstration was done in each class by a leader. The class leader had in addition to his or her tooth brush a cup of water, and the drill went as follows:

One, two, three, four, brush the teeth front teeth with a rotary motion. Dip. One, two, three, four, brush the teeth at the side with the same motion. Dip.

The leader had real water in her cup, but the children made believe, and with their brushes went through the "one, two, three, four, dip," following each motion of the leader.

A field day of dental hygiene brought the week to a close with tooth brush drills in Central Park, Prospect Park, Van Courtland Park and the Bronx. The school children in the contest, which was run by the department of physical training of the board of education, C. Ward Cramp-ton, director, competed for honors.

Thus these 800,000 children spread the gospel of mouth cleanliness in that many homes and to five million people.

GERMANS

(Continued from Page One.)

occurred on the Dniester on the 8th and the morning of the 9th. On the right bank of the Dniester from Ugarsburg to Zidachiv we pressed her enemy back, capturing another 2,000 prisoners with fifty officers and eight machine guns.

"On the left bank of the Dniester in the Juravno region, the enemy was unable to deploy advantageously, and after a stubborn fight was driven back behind the railway. We seized some villages, taking at the village of Bukaczew 800 prisoners including twenty officers."

AUSTRIANS FALLING BACK. Geneva, via Paris, June 11.—A despatch to the Tribune from Innsbruck, in the Austrian Tyrole, purports to give details of Russian successes in the Galicia campaign. The despatch says:

"The Russians bombarded the Austrian positions from Stanislav to Bortnik on the left bank of the Dniester. They have driven the Austrians across the river making a large number of prisoners. The Austrians also have been obliged to fall back across the Dniester at Bukasowice. The Russians stopped the advance of an Austrian column marching on Kolomea. The action was fierce, and the losses heavy on both sides."

BEALTON

[From our Own Correspondent.]

Mr. and Mrs. John Messer came Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Will Messer of this place.

Miss Clara Graham of Brantford is spending a few days with her brother, Mr. Roy Graham.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Secord of Oakland spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Davis.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Anderson and family motored to Tyrell on Sunday last.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Kitchen spent Sunday at Round Plains.

Mr. and Mrs. David Galloway spent Sunday at Newport.

The Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. Robinson on Friday last. A very pleasant time was spent by all present.

WILSON'S NOTE

(Continued from Page 1)

supplied with trained gunners and special ammunition, transporting troops from Canada, carrying a cargo not permitted under the laws of the United States to a vessel also carrying passengers and serving in virtual effect as an auxiliary to the naval forces of Great Britain. Fortunately these are matters concerning which the Government of the United States is in a position to give the Imperial Government official information.

"Of the facts alleged in your Excellency's note, if true, the Government of the United States would have been bound to take official cognizance in enforcing its recognized duty as a neutral power and in enforcing its national laws. It was its duty to see to it that the Lusitania was not armed for offensive action; that she was not serving as a transport; that she did not carry a cargo prohibited by the statutes of the United States, and that if in fact she was a naval vessel of Great Britain she should not receive clearance as a merchantman; and it performed that duty and enforced its statutes with scrupulous vigilance through its regularly constituted officials. It is able, therefore, to assure the Imperial German Government that it has been misinformed. If the Imperial German Government should deem itself to be in possession of convincing evidence that the officials of the Government of the United States did not perform these duties with thoroughness the Government of the United States sincerely hopes that it will submit that evidence for consideration."

IRRELEVANT CONTENTIONS.

"Whatever may be the contentions of the Imperial German Government regarding the carriage of contraband of war on board the Lusitania, or regarding the explosion of that material by the torpedo, it need only be said that in view of this government these contentions are irrelevant to the question of the legality of the methods used by the German naval authorities in sinking the vessel."

"But the sinking of passenger ships involves principles of humanity which throw into the background any special circumstances of detail that may be thought to affect the cases. Principles which lift it, as the Imperial German government will no doubt be quick to recognize and acknowledge, out of the class of ordinary subjects of diplomatic discussion or of international controversy. Whatever be the other facts regarding the Lusitania, the principal fact is that a great steamer, primarily and chiefly a conveyance for passengers, and carrying more than a thousand souls, who had no part lot in the conduct of the war, was torpedoed and sunk without so much as a challenge or a warning, and that men, women and children were sent to their death in circumstances unparalleled in modern warfare."

The fact that more than one hundred American citizens were among those who perished made it the duty of the Government of the United States, to speak of these things, and once more, with solemn emphasis, to call the attention of the Imperial German Government to the grave responsibility which the government of the United States conceives that it has incurred in this tragic occurrence, and to the indisputable principle upon which that responsibility rests."

REAFFIRMS PREVIOUS NOTE. "The Government of the United States therefore very earnestly and very solemnly renews the representations of its note transmitted to the Imperial German Government on the 15th of May and relies in these representations upon the principles of humanity, the universally recognized understandings of international law, and the ancient friendship of the German nation."

RIGHTS OF HUMANITY.

"The Government of the United States is contending for something much greater than mere rights of property or privilege of commerce. It is contending for nothing less high and sacred than the rights of humanity, which every Government honors itself in respecting, and which no government is justified in resigning on behalf of those under its care and authority. Only her actual resistance to capture or refusal to stop, or ordered to stop to do so for the purpose of visit could have afforded the commander of the submarine any justification for so much as putting the lives of those on board the ship in jeopardy. The principle the Government of the United States understands the explicit instructions issued on August 3, 1914, by the Imperial German Admiralty to its commanders at sea to have recognized and embodied, as do the naval codes of all other nations, and upon it every traveler and seaman has a right to depend. It is upon this principle of humanity, as well as upon the law founded upon this principle, that the United States must stand."

"The Government of the United States is happy to observe that your Excellency's note closes with the intimation that the Imperial German Government is willing, now as before, to accept the good offices of the United States in an attempt to come to an understanding with the Government of Great Britain by which the character and conditions of war upon the sea may be changed. The Government of the United States would consider it a privilege thus to serve its friends and the world. It stands ready at any time to convey to either Government any intimation or suggestion the other may be willing to have it convey, and cordially invites the Imperial German Government to make use of its services in this way at its convenience. The whole world is concerned in anything that may bring about even a partial accommodation of interests or in any way mitigate the terrors of the present distressing conflict."

"In the meantime, whatever arrangement may happily be made between the parties to the war, and whatever may in the opinion of the Imperial German Government have been the provocation or the circumstantial justification for the past acts of its commanders at sea, the Government of the United States contentedly looks to see the justice and humanity of the Government of Germany vindicated in all cases where Americans have been wronged or their rights as neutrals invaded."

ITALIANS CAPTURE PLOEKEN

Innsbruck, June 11.—(By courier to the Swiss frontier and Geneva, 10.45 a.m., and Paris, 2.55 p.m.)—Italian forces have captured Ploeken, in Austria, close to the frontier. The possession of this location is important, as it endangers Austrian communications. Ploeken is 15 miles south of the main highway between Laibach and Innsbruck.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Robert Lansing, Secretary of State, ad interim.

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