

UNFAVORABLE WEATHER PREVENTS ADVANCE ON EXTENSIVE SCALE

French Official Report, However, Shows Allies Have Made Progress Along Yser Canal Despite Stubborn Resistance from Enemy—Struggle for Supremacy Continues in Poland, with Decisive Result Apparently Long Distance Away.

NEXT DECISIVE STEP ON VISTULA PLAINS, BERLIN SAYS

Berlin (via The Hague to London, Dec. 14)—Despatches from the southwestern war zone report that a violent artillery duel was in progress Sunday in Upper Alsace, rising apparently from an attempt by the French to advance in the direction of Altkirch. The firing lasted from eleven o'clock in the morning until late in the afternoon. The result of the fighting has not been reported.

The correspondent of the Zeitung Am Mittag with the Austrian general headquarters telegraphs that the battle in Poland, following the capture of Lodz, now is waging along a stationary front in that region. In West Galicia, the correspondent says, there have been tangible results to the Austro-German offensive, their success being shown in the withdrawal of Russian columns from the Carpathians to serve as reinforcements where they are most needed. The correspondent adds that the indication is that the next decisive step is due to take place in the Vistula plains.

Progress along the Ypres Canal is noted in the latest French official war bulletin, although the weather conditions are unfavorable to any extensive movement by the opposing forces on the battlefield in Belgium and France. The Germans have replied to the attacks of the Allies, and violent fighting is reported during the past twenty-four hours.

An interesting feature of the French official communication is the statement that the railway station of Commercy, in the Department of Meuse, has been bombarded by the German batteries from a great distance. Commerce lies about seven miles to the south of St. Mihiel.

A Reuter despatch from Nish says that the Servians, after a fierce battle, have re-occupied Belgrade. The Servian capital was taken by the Austrians on December 2, after a siege of several months. If this report proves true the Servians are apparently

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

FRANCE

Paris, Dec. 14.—The French official statement issued this afternoon reports comparative quiet in Flanders, and artillery exchanges of relatively minor importance elsewhere. In the Meuse, German batteries are said to be moving to the north. In the Woivre district the French captured a trench and repulsed two counter attacks.

The advance of the French line into Alsace has brought it to a point north of Altkirch, and about ten miles to the east of the frontier. The text of the communication follows: "Tonight's official communication issued by the War Office, says: 'In Belgium several attacks by the French troops have resulted in progress along the Ypres Canal and to the west of Hollebeke. Several violent counter attacks have all been repulsed by our troops. 'The railway station of Commercy (Department of Meuse) was bombarded yesterday by batteries firing from a very great distance, but insignificant damage was done. 'In Alsace an offensive movement, resumed by the enemy in the northwest of Gerny, has been repulsed. 'On the rest of the front there is nothing to report.'

RUSSIA

Petrograd, Dec. 14.—The general staff of the Russian army has given out the following communication under date of Sunday, December 13: "There has been no engagement of importance on any of the fronts. In the region of Mlawe we continue to force back the German troops, who are in retreat. 'On the left wing of the river Vistula there has been no change. 'In the region of Mount Dukla, Austrian columns are coming down the northern slope of the Carpathians."

GERMANY

Berlin, Dec. 14.—The official press bureau gives out the following: "The week-end finds no change of importance recorded in the west, and in the east only the evacuation of Lodz by the Russians, although there is reason to believe that the German attack has been gaining ground. 'Southward of Gracow the Austrians are still repulsing all attacks, and further to the south have succeeded in clearing a number of the Carpathian passes of the enemy. 'The position of the German allies in Poland is generally considered favorable, an especially favorable point being the fact that the Russians appear to have assumed the defensive everywhere, without the power or energy to assume an aggressive advance in any section. 'There has been no developments, so far as advice disclose, in the Serbian operations. 'The German and Austrian bulletins issued Sunday combine to show that both armies are making progress against the Russians. While the German statement omits to say whether the capture

sweeping all before them, as the Austrians admit defeat at the hands of the Servians to the south east of Valjevo, where they were compelled to make an extended retirement. On the other hand, Vienna announces the gain of considerable ground in a northern direction in Western Galicia, where the Austrians have re-taken the town of Dukla. Austrian forces advancing through the Carpathians have captured nine thousand prisoners, and a number of machine guns. The great armies of Germany and Russia are still contending, with all their strength, in Poland for supremacy, but it is not expected that any one engagement or series of engagements will give a decisive result, either for one side or the other. A Berlin wireless despatch says the Austrian newspapers declare that when peace negotiations begin the United States will have a right to act as intermediary.

of 11,000 prisoners and forty-three machine guns, previously reported, occurred in the region of Lodz or Lowicz, or north of the Vistula by the army which last week took Przasnysz, the Austrian statement renders it practically certain that it was north of Lowicz, where successful attacks continued upon the strongly fortified Russian position. 'Austria further reports the defeat of the Russian southern wing on Saturday at Limanova and the advance of Austrian forces over the Carpathian passes. 'Special correspondents with the Austrian armies attribute the rapid withdrawal of the Russians from the Carpathians to the increasing pressure."

AUSTRIA

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 14 (10:55 p.m.)—Vienna made the following official announcement this afternoon, according to a despatch received here today: "The pursuit of the Russians in Western Galicia continues. As a result of encounters of a more or less serious nature we have won ground in a northern direction. Dukla (in Galicia) is again in our possession. Our columns, advancing through the Carpathians, captured on Saturday nine thousand prisoners and ten machine guns. 'The situation in front of Rejbro, to the east of Gracow, and in Southern Poland is unchanged. North of Lowicz our allies are pressing against the lower part of the Bzura river."

FRENCH LINER OVERDUE, NO WORD OF HER

The Florida Sailed Nov. 22 from Havre for New York and Hasn't Been Heard from Since.

New York, Dec. 14.—The French Line steamer Florida, six days overdue on her trip from Havre for New York, has not been heard of since she sailed on November 22, according to a cable message received by the line today from its agents in France. Each day adds to the apprehension felt for the vessel's safety.

The Florida, a vessel of 4,328 tons, has aboard twenty-four cabin passengers and fifteen in the steerage. Heavy northwest gales have swept the Atlantic recently and the line believes that the stormy weather has delayed her.

BURNS GIVEN DECISION IN 13TH ROUND

New Orleans, Dec. 14.—The referee stopped the fight here tonight between Frankie Burns and Chick Hayes in the thirteenth round, and declared Burns the winner. The fight was scheduled for twenty rounds, and was announced from the ring as for the bantamweight championship.

CAN GET ALONG WITHOUT THE SUBMARINES

Washington Officials Seem to be of Opinion Col. Goethals Has Ample Powers to Enforce Neutrality in Panama Zone.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Col. Goethals' reiterated request for destroyers for use in enforcing neutrality laws in the Panama Canal zone, was the subject of conferences today between Secretary of War Garrison, Counselor Lansing, of the State Department, and Rear Admiral Fiske, chief of the navy's bureau of operations. No decision resulted, and it was indicated tonight that, because of the delicacy of the question involved and the scant information furnished by Col. Goethals, it will be several days before any action was taken.

Secretary Garrison early in the day received a cablegram from Col. Goethals in reply to his request for details concerning the call for destroyers. This message was not made public, on account of its confidential nature, but Mr. Garrison said in Col. Goethals' judgment misuse of radio communication with its canal waters and the necessity of preventing misuse of the zone as a base of supply by belligerents, required the presence of swift-moving warships.

Before any step is determined upon, it is understood that officials of the administration will go deeply into the question of the powers and obligations of the government in controlling activities in the waters near the canal zone. At present the officials appear to believe that the governor of the Panama Canal already has at his command ample power to enforce the neutrality laws and all of the regulations for the use of the canal. The fortifications at the terminals are sufficiently advanced to give military command to all of the waters within the three mile limit, and beyond that point the United States government can exercise no control. There is an ample military force in barracks in the zone to maintain order and to deal with any vessel after it has passed through the entrance locks of the canal.

Regarding the alleged use of wireless by British colliers within the canal waters, the officials are trying to ascertain the extent to which this has been done. So far only one instance is said to have occurred, and it is suggested that a warning against the repetition of the offense will be sufficient, without invoking a display of force.

DROWNING AT ALBERT

Timothy O'Connor of Harvey Bank Victim of Tragedy on Sunday.

Special to The Standard
Albert, Dec. 14.—The body of Timothy J. O'Connor was found drowned near McLellan's Wharf at Riverside this morning. Shortly after the arrival of the steamer Harbinger from St. John the mate noticed a body floating in the water near the stern of the steamer. Upon investigation it was found to be the body of Mr. O'Connor or Harvey Corner. It is supposed that the back wash from the steamer brought the body to the surface. The deceased attended mass at Riverside yesterday with his family and is now in the St. Joseph's hospital, near the church. He remained during the afternoon, and shortly before six o'clock started for home. It was presumed that instead of taking the usual road he started walking the trestle. It is not known whether he fell off the wharf or the trestle along the river.

COMMANDER OF BRITISH FORGES IN N. CHINA DECORATED BY MIKADO

Tokio, Dec. 15.—Brig. General Nathaniel W. Barnardiston, commander of the British forces in North China, and who headed the British contingent operating against the German fortresses at Tsing Tau, was tendered a state luncheon today. Emperor Yoshihito decorated Gen. Barnardiston and also congratulated him for the work of his troops before Tsing Tau. Gen. Barnardiston will sail for San Francisco December 19 in company with the Japanese Red Cross, who are to proceed to England.

GERMAN INVASION OF POLAND HAS FAILED

Reached High Water Mark on Saturday — Failed to Break Russian Wall and Further Inroad Ended for Present at Least.

London, Dec. 15 (3:19 a.m.)—A Petrograd despatch to the Times says: "The German invasion reached its high water mark last Saturday. Having failed to undermine and overthrow the Russian wall, the invasion has now ceased to present a further inroad in Poland, and interest is stimulated in the

next move of the Russian staff, which a few days ago intimated that the Russian armies were ready to retire to more favorable positions behind Warsaw. "Now that the Russian army has splendidly responded to the situation, this will not be necessary, and the next move will be a manoeuvre to the German flank."

MAN IN THE OVERALLS IS DOING HIS SHARE

Thanks of Admiralty Expressed to Workmen in Yards Where Britain's Battleships are Built.

Newcastle, Eng. (Via London, Dec. 14).—"The men in overalls, just as much as those who go forth to fight for their country in Khaki or blue, stand between this land and a group of savage, relentless and ruthless militarists," said the Right Hon. Thomas James MacNamara, financial secretary to the Admiralty, in addressing tonight the first of a series of meetings at which he has been delegated to express the thanks of the Admiralty to the shipyard and engineering works employes engaged on government contracts. "Without your work," Mr. MacNamara added, "the valor of the soldiers would avail nothing. By their patriotic response to the heavy and continuous strain imposed upon them since the war, Mr. MacNamara declared, the workmen had assisted materially in increasing the strength and the readiness of the fleet. He exhorted them to continue their efforts in the assurance that in so doing they were best serving their country."

WILL HELP MEMBERS OF THEIR PROFESSION IN STRICKEN BELGIUM

Doctors and Druggists in the United States to Organize Belgian Relief Movement.

New York, Dec. 14.—A movement was completed today for the organization of physicians, surgeons and pharmacists of the United States for the purpose of relieving the five thousand people of the same profession in Belgium. This was announced tonight at the local office of the American commission for relief in Belgium. These united doctors and pharmacists will act nationally, raise cash donations and convert this cash into boxes filled with food, clothing and medicines which will be adapted to the needs of the Belgians. The organization was inspired by the formation of a similar body among the needed surgeons of England. Dr. Frank F. Simpson of Pittsburg is treasurer of this new organization.

PREVENTED HIM FROM CORNERING THE WHEAT MARKET, NEED NOT PAY

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Joseph Letter need not pay \$380,933 in notes given the Interior and Monarch Elevator Company to pay for grain during Letter's attempt to corner the wheat market in 1898, according to a verdict tonight of the jury which heard the elevator company's suit to recover. Letter's sole defense was that the late Frank H. Peavy and the late C. A. Pillsbury, both of Minneapolis, representing the company had agreed to keep this alleged agreement prevented Letter from effecting the corner and caused him a loss of about twelve million dollars, according to the testimony.

JOHNNY EVERS IS IMPROVING.
New York, Dec. 14.—The condition of Captain Johnny Evers, of the Boston Braves, who is suffering from pneumonia, is steadily improving. This was announced tonight at the local hotel where Evers has been ill for a week, at one time being in a critical state.

UNIONISTS WERE FOR STANDING BY FRANCE

London, Dec. 14.—A letter sent by A. Bonar Law and the Marquis of Lansdowne, Unionist leaders in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, respectively, to Prime Minister Asquith on Sunday, August 2, when the decision of the government whether to participate in the war or not was doubtful, was read by Mr. Bonar Law at a meeting of the Unionist chairman and agents today. The letter was as follows: "Lord Lansdowne and I feel it our duty to inform you that in our opinion, as well as in that of all our colleagues, whom we have been able to consult, that it would be fatal to the honor and the security of the United Kingdom to hesitate in supporting France and Russia at the present juncture, and we offer our unhesitating support to the government in any measures they may consider necessary for that object."

After reading the contents of the letter, Mr. Bonar Law, in a speech, said: "Before the war, party passions were inflamed to such an extent that I saw no possible outlet which would not be disastrous to the country. In a moment the whole situation was changed. 'In our country there is no single instance since parliamentary government was introduced where the government engaged in conducting a war has not been hampered and harassed by the action of the opposition. That was true in the wars of Marlborough; it was still more emphatically true in the struggle against Napoleon, and it was true in the last war in which this country was engaged. 'I think it is quite possible that we have made the mistake, not of criticizing the government too much, but of criticizing it too little; but if a mistake had to be made, I prefer that it were made in that direction. 'Mr. Bonar Law said that after four months, since the beginning of the war, he could look forward to the future with hope and complete confidence. 'Germany,' he said, 'has failed. They have not crushed France. They cannot crush France, and already the Russian armies are on their frontiers. We have a terrible struggle in front of us, but the final result is not in doubt. The greatest honor which can come upon us as a party will be that when the war is over we can truthfully say that we 'nothing common did, or mean, upon that memorable scene.'"

ANOTHER WAR PRIZE TAKEN

Tokio, Dec. 15.—It is reported here that the German armed merchantman Oxford has been captured by the British in the Indian Ocean, and that the German converted cruiser Cormoran has entered the harbor of Guam, in the Ladrones Archipelago.

BANK OF VANCOUVER STOPS PAYMENT

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 14.—Announcement was made at a late hour tonight by the directors of the Bank of Vancouver that they had been obliged to suspend payment. The directors are confident that the depositors will be paid in full, as the assets are ample.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

WAS THE KIDNEY DOCTOR'S RECOMMENDATION. "I have used your pills for several years and they have done me a great deal of good. I have been cured of my kidney trouble and I am now in perfect health. I can recommend your pills to all who are suffering from kidney trouble."—J. H. BROWN, 23 THE PR...

PRE-HOLIDAY SALE BLACK VELVET HATS AT MARR'S

This is positively your last chance to secure these elegant \$3.00 Hats At 98c. Each They come in three models, in Hatter's Plush Tops with velvet brims and in all plush Sent by Mail to any address, postage paid, on receipt of price. Cash must accompany all orders MARR MILLINERY CO. 1-3-5 Charlotte St.

TRAIN HITS SLEIGH KILLING OCCUPANTS

London, Ont., Dec. 14.—Fred Whitling, aged 18, of 382 Trafalgar street, was instantly killed and James Smith, colored, aged 16, of 1225 Trafalgar street, is in a dying condition, as the result of being struck by the Grand Trunk "Pacific Express," Buffalo to Chicago, at the Egerton street crossing of the company at 6:30 tonight. The boys were in a sleigh and the horse was instantly killed and the vehicle demolished.

NO XMAS LEAVE, BUT RULES WILL BE RELAXED

London, Dec. 14.—Keen disappointment is being expressed by members of the Canadian contingent whose homes are in Britain at the fact that Christmas leave is being refused. It is understood, however, that at the command of the King, every relaxation is to be allowed in the camps at Christmas.

IMPETIAL—EVERYTHING A SUCCESS!

Concert Soprano
Soloist Violinist
High-Class Pianist
'Collet of Unusual Merit'
MENDLSOHN QUARTETTE
ASK Anybody Who Heard Them Yesterday
ROARS of Laughter in Sydney Drew's Two-Reel Vitaphone
"STANLEY, THE LION-TAMER"
"JUST HOME FOLKS"
Sweet Household Drama
HEARST-SELIG NEWS
Especially the War Views
Edison Drama
Orchestra
Five Reels
Wed. "The Call of the North"
Starting Next Friday
Santa Claus

Today UNIQUE Today THE SECOND LAST CHAPTER

Beautifully Tinted—Gorgeous Scenery—2-Parts—2
VIVIAN RICH—WM. GARWOOD—JACK RICHMOND
In the Moonshine Scenic Study
"THE TRAP"
ROSCOE ARBUCKLE (FATTY) IN THE RIDICULOUS SKIT—"FATTY'S DEBUT"
WED.—"The Butterfly"—American, and "Our Mutual Girl"
THE MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY
"THE DOCUMENTS IN THE TREASURE BOX"
ATTACK ON THE POLICE!
BRAIN'S ESCAPE! THE CHASE!
THE BREAKDOWN!
BRAIN'S THRILLING LEAP FROM A BRIDGE 40 FT. FROM WATER.

OPERA HOUSE Matinee Wednesday and Saturday

Tonight and All This Week Thompson's Musical Comedy Co. Presenting The Wizard of Wiseland CORONA CHOCOLATES FOR THE LADIES WEDNESDAY MATINEE.

GEN

Will Have to... eral Off... vancing I... Violent F... German L... Allies'—A... Advance.

Petrograd, De... region was inf... Gen Mackenz... eral offensive ca... Paris, Dec. 14... trams western... Ypres through A... attacks of French... offensive, which h... fighting. The All... but it is admitte... The German... of the Allies. On... tire German regi... After it had take... forlorn, succeede... evident today th... re region, where... mans holding St...

Fighting has be... French are declar... a point where th... cation with Metz f... seriously threaten... tacks upon Ashba... and the lines in A... being strengthened... The greatest ext... aroused by the an... one communes in A... Paris, Dec. 14—T... which are grindin... tive, which is victo... stop at will, is the... Temps, in declarin... day truce among... suggested in the U... is impracticable. S... not be arranged, it... additional reason... impossible to obtai... it would be observ... gerents. London, Dec. 14... Nish, Servia, despa...

ENGLAND UNDER CON... (Copyright, 1914, by... Evening... Gen. Kekewich h... Major-Gen. Houn... only sixty years o... four years ago, ovi... unemployed for th... days of his youth h... ner of the Aldershot... which type, and was... hounds as he was s... bad luck to take S... Stormberg expediti... guns away from the... skill, and helped to... those who escap...

DIED.
RICHARDS—Suddenly at Ottawa on Saturday, December 12th, Nettie F., wife of J. Fred Richards. Interment at Fredericton on Tuesday.
About 200 availed themselves of the leave granted, and a large proportion of these attended the parade service to Hammons' Synagogue on Sunday.
All possible facilities were given to the Hebrew members of the Canadian contingent this week end to attend the special services in connection with their religious feast of Hanukkah.

The Westminst... duced from a Dut... of a secret sitting... Chamber in the su... story is that the... held to hear a con... on by the War Minis... fter's statement v... that the Belgian G... certain that the f... man army would g... immediate advanta... over the French u... and that it was f... France with that... glum. The Belgi... also satisfied itse... were not in a posit... attack, particular... made to the condi... Manberge. Furth... ed from a Europea... that Belgium had... herself. The War... name this sovereig... ed that it was the... Rumania.

Circulars have be... don from an entrep... chant who intimates... able commission be... table shipments, via... England and vario... Russia, Finland, etc." No doubt the... unpatriotic dealers... little underhand bu... ion, but the Board... prove that such tr... upon any considera... tion is made, ho... of loss. There is v... Germany was the u... of vast quantities... to Holland, Swede... that certain Minis... have profited larg... lion. Lord Lansdowne, leader, is slowly rec... serious illness whic... ful operation, but... been much retard...