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PROBS—FAIR TODAY

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MUCH DEPENDS NOW ON WEATHER AND ATTITUDE OF ROUMANIAN PEOPLE

These Believed to be Principal Factors in Any Marked Change in Military Situation—Both Nations May Reach Speedy Decision.

London, Jan. 11.—Only a change in the weather, or the entrance into the war of Roumania or Italy, or both, is likely to bring any marked change in the military situation in Europe for some time to come.

What turn the weather will take no one can predict, but the belief is growing in those countries allied against Germany, Austria and Turkey, that Roumania, with her well trained army of not less than 400,000 men, will at an early date throw herself into the conflict, which would in effect link Roumania with the extreme Russian left, now facing its way into Hungary through Bukovina.

Taking into consideration the Serbians and Montenegrins, this would form a line menacing Austria-Hungary along the entire south-eastern frontier from Russia to the Adriatic.

ACTION EXPECTED SOON.

Just as rumors prevailed for days prior to Turkey's entrance into the war on the side of Germany, which tended to discount the step when it was eventually taken, so, rumors now centre about Roumania and Italy, and there is a strong feeling among the general public in France and England that definite action will not long be delayed.

Meanwhile the armies already in the field in the East and West remain virtually deadlocked.

In Alsace the French continue, by sapping and sporadic charges, their attempts to force their way nearer the Rhine, but there has been snow in the Vosges and it is noticeable that neither side claims any new progress. The Germans throw heavy reinforcements into Alsace after the recent French advance, and apparently they have been able to hold their ground, in view of the failure of the French to consolidate the positions they took after much hard fighting.

DESPERATE FIGHTING IN WESTERN CENTRE.

With a comparative lull in this quarter and artillery duels predominating near the Belgian coast, fighting of a desperate character has broken out in the centre, notably in the northwest of Soissons, which bids fair, through bombardments, to suffer the fate of Rheims, and further east, in the vicinity of Perthes and Beausejour, from which points the allies have been trying to reach the important railway to the north, the seizure of which would cut one of the German main arteries of communication.

The official communication of the contending nations do not agree as to the outcome of the recent fighting in these areas. The Allies claim to have forged ahead from Soissons; the Germans say these attacks have not been fruitful and that fighting is proceeding.

The Allies contend that they have advanced north of Perthes and still hold the ground at Beausejour to the north and east. The Germans make no mention of fighting to the north of Perthes, but maintain that they have advanced east of the village. The fighting in the vicinity of Beausejour, which the Allies consider so important, they ignore.

RUSSIANS READY TO INVADE HUNGARY

Neither East Prussia nor Poland furnishes any change in the general situation, and strangely, the Russians have added little with reference to the expected invasion of Hungary by way of Bukovina, although more than a week ago they claimed to be at the threshold. It is conceded, however, that practically the whole of Bukovina is now in Russian hands, and despatches reaching London from Bucharest say that thousands of fugitives from that territory are crossing the Roumanian frontier, some of them proceeding to Vienna. It is in the developments arising from the occupation of Bukovina that interest is now centred, as it is believed to have an immediate bearing on the Roumanian situation.

The British military experts, conceding that there is a virtual deadlock elsewhere, are marking time, pending the crisis.

Little authentic information has been received regarding the Turkish army in the Caucasus since Russia dealt it such a heavy blow. Italy, according to latest reports, is rushing troops to her islands in the Aegean Sea, off the coast of Asia Minor, so that she may be prepared for eventualities.

The report that Turkey was preparing to invade Egypt with a camel corps is followed tonight by a report that Turkey has abandoned this enterprise fearing the disembarkation of troops in Syria, which would threaten her line of communications.

RUSSIANS NOT CAUGHT BY GERMAN STRATAGEM

Petrograd, Jan. 11.—The following official communication was issued tonight from general headquarters:

"On the left bank of the Vistula, both day and night January 10, the Germans attempted without success to attack our line at several points, but were repulsed everywhere by our fire.

"In an attack in the region of the Village of Samlo, east of Skierniewice, the Germans reached our barbed wire entanglements and began to shout: 'Do not fire; we are yours.'

"However, as similar stratagems had been employed before the vigilance of our troops was not deceived by this manoeuvre of the Germans, and we directed against them a destructive fire and delivered a counter-attack, repulsing the enemy and inflicting heavy losses upon them.

"The Galiata the cannon and rifle fire has been kept going and we remain in contact with the enemy."

TURKS ABANDON THE INVASION OF EGYPT

London, Jan. 1.—Advises received here from Athens say that it is now reported in the Greek capital that the plan to have the Eighth Turkish Army Corps proceed from Damascus to the Egyptian frontier has been abandoned. A previous despatch from Athens said this Army Corps, well provisioned and equipped with 3,100 camels, already had left Damascus for Egypt.

MORE TALES OF GERMAN "KULTUR."

London, Ont., Jan. 11.—Miss Annie Gash, formerly of this city, writing to her mother from Tetracombe, Eng., tells of a British soldier back from the firing line who had both eyes gouged out by the Germans as well as both ears and hands cut off. The writer also speaks of having seen Belgian children whose hands have been cut off by troops of the enemy.

BRUSSELS BLAZING IS REPORT.

Bulletin—Amsterdam, via London, Jan. 11---9.05 p.m.---Refugees who have arrived at Bergen-Op-Zoom from Brussels, says the Nieuwe Van Den Dag, report that a great fire has broken out at the former Belgian capital.

GERMANS DROPPED BOMBS ON DUNKIRK; SIX KILLED

Aeroplanes Paid Sunday Visit to French Coast Town — Two Raiders Brought Down by Shrapnel Fire.

London, Jan. 12, 3.14 a. m.—According to French despatches to the London morning papers fifty bombs were dropped on Dunkirk Sunday by aeroplanes which were cruising over the town from eleven o'clock in the morning until nearly four o'clock in the afternoon. They came from all directions and were met by a heavy shrapnel fire. Two of the raiders were brought down, one outside the town and the other twenty-five miles away.

In spite of the long ordeal the populace displayed no panic. The bombs included some of the incendiary type, but little material damage was done. Six persons were killed at Dunkirk and the suburb of Malo, and it is reported that several persons were killed at St. Pol and Adinkerke, but this has not been confirmed. It appears that the absence of a large number of French aeroplanes from Dunkirk must have been known to the Germans.

ORDERS ISSUED FOR THIRD CONTINGENT FROM THE DOMINION

Active Mobilization Will be Under Way All Over Country in Few Days—To Adopt New Plan for Recruiting.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—Orders for the mobilization of the third Canadian expeditionary force were sent out today and will be actively under way at all recruiting centres within a few days.

In order to secure greater local interest in recruiting and to have the men better prepared for regimental drill the plan is to make the headquarters of each of the old militia regiments throughout the country a recruiting centre where the men will also be held for a short time and given some preliminary training. The men thus recruited by companies at the local centres will later gather at battalion mobilization centres. For the first contingent the troops were mobilized at Valcartier, for the second contingent at the headquarters of divisional areas. The new plan is expected to be better than either.

SPINAL MENINGITIS MAY PUT CANADIANS OUT OF SALISBURY

Large Number of Deaths Being Used as Argument to Have Contingent Billed or Removed to France.

London, Jan. 11 (Gazette cable)—In consequence of the serious outbreak of spinal meningitis in the Canadian camps at Salisbury Plain, which have already caused a number of deaths, a determined effort is being made in the British-Canadian circles to secure the drastic step of having the entire contingent billeted, or else removed to France at once, the latter move being considered preferable. Anything which the authorities at Ottawa can do to back up the efforts being made in England would be greatly appreciated, as it is considered, by those in touch with the situation here, that the proposal is one of overwhelming importance for the welfare of the Canadian troops.

Intense regret is expressed at the death of Lt. Col. Frank Strange, of Kingston, Ont., one of the victims of meningitis, following as it did the death of Rev. Capt. Inglis, chaplain of the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto. Lt. Col. Strange's body will be sent to Canada this week for interment. There is sorrow also among the Montreal soldiers at the death of Private Fred. McGuinness, son of Major McGuinness of Montreal. Several cases of meningitis are now under treatment at Bulford Hospital, near Salisbury Plain.

DUTCH SENTENCE ON SOLDIER COMMUTED.

London, Jan. 11, 8.45 p. m.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Berlin, by way of Amsterdam, says that the Court of Appeals has commuted the death sentence on Private Wm. Lonsdale, the English soldier who was court-martialed for attacking one of his guards at the Doberitz detention camp, to twenty years imprisonment.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES REPORTED

Captain Newton of Princess Pat Regiment Killed in Action — Montreal Artilleryman Dead.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—The following casualties in the Canadian expeditionary force are announced by the Militia Department tonight:

Killed in Action.

Jan. 3.—Captain Denis Onslow Cochrane Newton, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Next of kin, G. D. C. Newton, Croston Park, St. Noels, Hants, Eng.

Death.

Jan. 10.—Gunner J. P. Kennedy, Second Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery, at Bulford Manor Hospital, of meningitis. Next of kin, S. W. Kennedy, 330 Wood Ave., Westmount, Que.

Seriously Ill.

Private John W. Penfold, Thirteenth Battalion, at Consumptive Hospital, Fulham Road, London. Next of kin, Elizabeth Penfold, Westerham, Kent, Eng.

Gunner Herbert John Woodward, Third Brigade, C. F. A., at Number 1 Canadian General Hospital, with suspected meningitis. Next of kin, Mrs. Florence Woodward, 46 Carlton Ave., Toronto.

"THANK GOD WE HAVE NOT HAD DEFEAT"

Pitiful Evidence of German Government's Heartless Misrepresentation of War Conditions.

Toronto, Jan. 11.—Some light on conditions in the capital of Germany is given in a letter from Berlin to Toronto by the wife of one of the German prisoners of war at present interned at Stanley Barracks. It is dated November 19, and by some curious circumstances was untouched by the censors. The writer in part, says: "You cannot imagine how times have changed here. Every one is doing all he can to assist in the hard times. You cannot imagine the number of downhearted and depressed people there are here. Even the people themselves scarcely know what they are doing. Every one is doing as much as he can, but it is far from being sufficient. "There is awful loss amongst our poor young men, but that will not be for nothing. We must get all the enemies and take revenge. A great number of our men have already fallen, and a great many more are wandering the streets in sorrow and distress, but, thank God, we have not had a defeat yet."

A vivid light on the hitherto carefully concealed dread that stalks abroad in that sorrow-stricken city is thrown out by her next sentence. She says: "We have already expected the Russians to enter Berlin before this (November 19), but that scare is over."

STRUCK A REEF.

Miami, Fla., Jan. 11.—Loss of the schooner Mattie Winslow, Glasgow to Havana, was reported here today with the arrival of her crew who were forced to abandon her after she struck a reef last night. Whether the loss was total was not known.

CONTENDING ARMIES LOCKED IN TRENCHES; POSITION UNCHANGED

Very Little Fighting on Either Battle Front Reported Yesterday—Rain, Mud and Snow Most Active Forces—Russians Claim Success.

Only sporadic fighting is taking place on any of the battle fronts, according to the latest reports, and this is almost all between the artillery branches of the opposing armies. Probably the heaviest infantry engagement occurred on the lower Nida river, in Southern Poland, where the Austrians claim they repulsed, with severe losses, Russian attempts to cross the stream at several places.

No victories of strategic value are claimed by either side at any place, and no repulses are forecasted by any of the war chancelleries which is indicative of a serious defeat. In fact the situation everywhere remains virtually as it has for some time past—a condition of deadlock prevailing owing to the well entrenched positions of the combatants. Rain and mud hampers any attempts at manoeuvring by the armies in the low-lying lands, while in the Vosges snow has almost stopped the severe attacks and counter-attacks that prevailed throughout last week, when the French were trying to gain additional ground in Alsace, and the Germans were endeavoring to hold them back.

The Austrians charge that the Russians are using Austro-Hungarian uniforms in order to catch Austrian patrols. It is declared that the rights of belligerents will not be accorded Russians so masquerading.

A BERLIN REPORT

A Berlin wireless despatch asserts that the French dreadnought Courbet was recently torpedoed by an Austrian submarine in the Adriatic, and later was rammed by her sister ship the Jean Bart, and sank. The Jean Bart was damaged, and docked at Malta.

German aircraft again have been busy raiding in Northern France. Six persons were killed in Dunkirk and the suburb of Malo, by bombs dropped from aeroplanes, and several others are reported to have met death from missiles in Saint Pol and Adinkerke. The Germans did not escape unscathed. Three of their machines were brought down by shell fire, two near Dunkirk and another near Amiens. Two hostile aeroplanes approached Paris Sunday, but are reported to have fled when French air scouts gave chase.

Turkey has introduced in parliament a bill calling for an extraordinary war credit of \$43,500,000.

It is announced that the Netherlands war loan of \$110,000,000 has been over-subscribed.

ITALY PREPARING

A news agency despatch says the Italians are strengthening their garrisons in the Aegean Islands, and that the islands are being strongly fortified.

A news agency despatch from Berlin announces that the sentence of death imposed on Private Wm. Lonsdale, an English soldier prisoner, for attacking his guards, has been commuted to twenty years imprisonment.

A great fire is said to have broken out in Brussels.

The historic annual boat race between the Oxford and Cambridge university crews has been abandoned this year on account of the war.

REPORT THAT KARLSRUHE WAS SUNK DURING BATTLE

Montreal Gazette Publishes Letter from Man Who Claims to Have Witnessed Engagement.

Montreal, Jan. 12.—The Gazette today publishes a letter received by a Montreal gentleman, dated Sauteuse, wreckage and barrels of foodstuffs which expresses the belief that the German cruiser Karlsruhe was sunk in a naval engagement to the north of Grenada on the evening of November 25. The letter states that fishermen, six days afterwards, reported having seen dead bodies in the water, and on his portion of the island, Isla de Rhonde, a lifebuoy came ashore marked "H. M. S. Karlsruhe," besides an officer's sword, wrapped in cloth. The writer of the letter, whose name is not made public (nor is the recipient's), claims that he witnessed the engagement, which, he states, was undoubtedly carried on by more than two warships.

MOROCCANS INFLICT HEAVY DEFEAT ON FRENCH TROOPS

Belated Account of Desperate Fighting in North Africa — Temporary Success for "Holy Warriors."

Madrid, Jan. 9.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—According to private advices received here from Northern Africa, the position of the French troops in Morocco is very critical. A letter from Tangier says the French have been obliged either to surrender or evacuate the last of their fortified posts in the Moroccan interior. General Lyautoy, the commander of the French troops, has, therefore, given orders that the hinterland and central parts of Morocco be abandoned. It is asserted by these advices, however, that the French troops have been very heavy. In the vicinity of Taurirt, and along the Vergha river, engagements between the French and Moroccans are said to have led to a rout for the former. That part of Morocco is now held by the Holy Warriors.

GEN. HODGINS, ADJUTANT OF CANADIAN MILITIA

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—Brig-General Hodgins today took over his duties as Adjutant General of the Canadian Militia Forces, succeeding Colonel Septimus Denison, who is to go to the front. Col. Denison succeeded in office Colonel Victor Williams, who has recently been given command of a British cavalry brigade, and will proceed to Egypt, it is understood.

HOLLAND'S WAR LOAN IS OVER SUBSCRIBED.

The Hague, Jan. 11, via London, 4.13 p. m.—Announcement was made today that that government war loan of \$110,000,000 has been greatly over-subscribed. The exact total of the sum applied for is \$169,000,000.