

# SIR JOHN FRENCH SENDS CHEERING WORDS; ALLIES REPORTED ON OFFENSIVE SOUTH OF YPRES

## ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BREAK THROUGH THE ALLIES' LINES AT ARRAS?

Reported That Germans Have Brought Up 700,000 Men to Make Another Attack on British and French — Occasional Bombardment of Allies' Positions, with Less Powerful Guns, Only Activity Shown by Enemy Yesterday — No New Developments in Balkans.

London, Nov. 30, 4.05 a. m.—The Daily Mail's Rotterdam correspondent reports that the Allies are taking the offensive south of Ypres, having discovered that the German line is weakening.

London, Nov. 29.—The Weekly Despatch's Boulogne correspondent says:

"The Germans have collected 700,000 men in the neighborhood of Arras, where they are preparing for a determined effort to break through the Allies lines."

"Heavy fighting already has begun."

While depreciating the exaggerated reports of Russian successes in the battle in Northern Poland, where the German Emperor has joined Field Marshal Von Hindenburg to offer his advice and to encourage his troops, the latest available official reports from Russian headquarters state that the advantage in the fighting still lies with the Russian army. It is also officially said that enormous losses have been inflicted on the Germans, but no mention is made of the capture of German divisions, which has been so freely claimed by the Petrograd correspondents of London and Paris papers.

Opposed to this is the German official report, which says that the Russian attacks have been repulsed and that the German counter-attacks have been successful.

### RUSSIANS ADMIT VICTORY AT CRACOW.

Some days must elapse before this battle, which promises to prove the most decisive of the war, is concluded. So far, all that is definitely known is that the German advance has been brought to a standstill. Some of the German troops have been partly or wholly surrounded, but they are still fighting stubbornly to break their way through the Russian lines apparently to the northward, where they hope to join reinforcements sent from Thorn.

In the battle before Cracow, the Russians do claim decisive success. During the last week about 30,000 Austrian and German prisoners in this region. This victory is taken in Petrograd to mean that Cracow will not bar the Russian advance in Silesia from the south, but that, with the Austrian army beaten, it will be necessary only to mask the fortress.

The Russians, likewise, announce success on the Austrian side of the Carpathians, and against the Turks in the Caucasus, although in both regions the weather has been very bad.

In the western arena the Germans, although an occasional infantry attack seem at present content to bombard the allied positions, but with somewhat lighter guns than they have been using. This may mean either that they are sending troops and artillery to the east, to use against the Russians, or that they are preparing a new attack against the Allies.

That the enterprise that failed in Flanders will not be repeated for the present seems probable, as the Allies have been allowed to capture some points of vantage around Ypres, which were previously considered necessary to the German plans. There has been a minor attack near Arras, but not in strong enough force to suggest that the Germans have decided to try to get to the coast by direct route from the east.

An interesting report from Field Marshal Sir John French, covering the period of the battle in Flanders and the days immediately preceding it, shows that this battle was brought about, first, by the Allies' attempts to outflank the Germans, who countered, and then by their plans to move to the northeast to Ghent and Bruges, which also failed. After this, the German offensive began, with the French coast ports as the objective, but this movement, like those of the Allies, met with failure.

Field Marshal French, doubtless in response to the demands of the British public, tells what the various units of the expeditionary force have been doing; those that failed and were cut off, and those who against superior numbers held the trenches for a month. He gives it as his opinion that the German losses have been thrice as great as those of the Allies, and speaks optimistically of the future.

There has been no development in the Balkan situation, but stress is laid on the clause of the King's speech at the opening of the Roumanian Parliament, in which he said:

"I am convinced that, realizing the importance of the present situation, you will give the government every assistance in passing such legislation as is demanded by the circumstances, and required to meet the needs of the army."

## SPECULATORS IN STATES SENDING STALE EGGS TO THIS COUNTRY

Special to The Standard  
Ottawa, Nov. 29.—Information has reached the Trade and Commerce Department that certain speculators in Philadelphia are buying up storage eggs which are unfit for food according to the laws of Pennsylvania and are shipping them to Canada and Green Britain. They are eggs that have been more than nine months in storage. Canadian consumers are according

## NOT REGARDED AS ENEMIES OF BRITAIN

Special to The Standard  
Ottawa, Nov. 29.—An order in council regarding the registration of aliens of enemy nationality exempts from the necessity of registering or reporting anyone who has taken the oath of allegiance and is in the government service. All Armenian Christians are also specially exempt. Though they may be legally citizens of Turkey they are not regarded as enemies, but rather as friends of Britain.

Field Marshal of British Army Says Great Battle at Ypres Appears to be in Last Stage — Enemy's Artillery Fire Has Slacked and Infantry Attacks Have Practically Ceased — Tells What British Units Have Achieved — Germans Threw Whole Weight Against Allies in West, Thus Making Vigorous Offensive Impracticable — Enemy's Losses 3 to 1 in Fighting — Skill and Resources of Indian Troops a Feature of War — Praise for Territorial — Pages of History Being Glorified by Deeds of British Leaders and Their Men.

London, Nov. 29.—Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British forces in the field, speaks in an optimistic vein concerning the position of the Allies in a report issued today by the Official Press Bureau. The report covers, in a general way, the activities of the British troops from November 11 to 20, with extensive reference to fighting preceding these dates.

Summing up the situation in concluding his report Field Marshal French says:

"A close study of the despatch, signs are in evidence that we are firing in the last stages of the battle from Ypres to Armentieres. For several days past the artillery fire of the enemy has slackened considerably, and his infantry attacks have practically ceased.

"In remarking upon the general military situation of the Allies, as it appears to me at the present moment," General French continues, "it does not seem to be clearly understood that the operations in which we have been engaged embrace nearly all of the theatre of the continent of Europe, from the east to the west, and the Russian army in the Belgian and British armies in the west, and the Russian army in the east, are opposed to the united forces of Germany and Austria, acting as combined armies between us.

"Our enemies elected at the commencement of the war to throw the weight of their forces against our armies in the west, and to detach only a comparatively weak force, composed of very few of the first line troops and several corps of second and third line troops, to stem the Russian advance until the western forces could be completely defeated and overwhelmed. Their strategy against us in the west. This pretence to throw vigorous offensive action, except when miscalculations and mistakes are made by their commanders, opening up special opportunities for successful attacks and pursuits.

"The general plan, as arranged by the German and French High Commands, was to operate over a wide front on the line of the Ypres Canal, the English should pivot on the French at Bethune, attacking the Germans on their flank, and forcing their way north. In the event that the British forced the Germans out of their positions, making possible a forward movement of the Allies, the French and British were to march east, and following up with powerful and successful counter-attacks to complete his discomfiture.

"The value and significance of operations of this nature, since the commencement of hostilities by the Allies forces in the west, lie in the fact that at the moment when the danger of a German offensive was greatest, the British and French forces were to be seen in the west, and the German offensive was to be stopped by the British and French forces. The German offensive was to be stopped by the British and French forces. The German offensive was to be stopped by the British and French forces.

"I cannot speak too highly of the services rendered by the Royal Artillery throughout the battle. In spite of the fact that the enemy brought up, in support of his attacks, guns of great range and shell power, they have succeeded throughout in preventing the enemy from establishing anything in the nature of superiority in artillery.

"The skill, courage and energy displayed by the commanders of the Royal Artillery have been very marked. The Royal Engineers have been indefatigable in their efforts to assist the infantry in field fortification and trench work.

Enemy Has Been the Heavier Loser.

"I deeply regret that the heavy casualties which we have suffered, but the nature of the fighting has been very desperate, and we have been assisted by vastly superior numbers. I have every reason to know that throughout the course of the battle, we have placed at least three times as many of the enemy hors de combat in dead, wounded and prisoners.

"Throughout these operations General French has strained his resources to the utmost to afford me all the support he could. An expression of my warm gratitude is also due to General Duhall, commanding the Eighth French Army Corps on my left, and to General De Maud's Huy, commanding the Tenth Army Corps on my right.

"Discussing details of the engagement from Ypres to Armentieres, General French explains that he was impressed early in October with the necessity of giving the greatest possible support to the northern flank of the Allies in the effort to outflank the enemy and compel him to evacuate his positions. He says that the situation on the Aisne warranted the withdrawal of British troops from positions held there, as the enemy had been weakened by continual attacks, and the fortifications of the Allies much improved.

"Gen. French made known his views to Gen. Joffre, who agreed with it. The French General Staff arranged for the withdrawal of the British, which began on October 3 and was completed on October 19, when the First Army Corps, under General Sir Douglas Haig, detrained at St. Omer.

he was able to advance at all, owing to the bad roads and the overwhelming number of Germans who made it impossible to carry out the original plan of moving to Bruges.

"The fighting gradually became bayonet charges. October 21st brought forth the hardest attack, made on the First Corps at Ypres, and in the checking of which the Worcestershire Regiment displayed great gallantry. This day marked the most critical period in the great battle, according to General French, who says the recapture of the village of Gheluvelt, through a rally of the Worcestershires, was fraught with much consequence to the Allies.

"After referring to some of the battles in which the Indian troops took part, Field Marshal French says: "Since their arrival in this country, and their occupation of the line allotted to them, I have been much impressed by the initiative and resource displayed by the Indian troops. Some of the uses they have employed to deceive the enemy have been attended with the best results, and have doubtless kept the superior forces in front of them at bay."

"Our Indian sappers and miners have long enjoyed a high reputation for skill and resource. Without going into detail I can confidently assert that throughout their work in this campaign they have fully justified that reputation.

"The general officer commanding the Indian army describes the conduct and bearing of these troops, in strange and new surroundings to have been highly satisfactory, and I am enabled from my own observations to fully corroborate this statement."

General French goes on to say that while the whole line continued to be heavily pressed, the enemy's principal efforts, from November 1, had been concentrated upon breaking through the line held by the first British and ninth French corps, and thus gaining possession of the town of Ypres. The German offensive was to be stopped by the British and French forces. The German offensive was to be stopped by the British and French forces.

"About November 10, after several days of these operations, the German offensive was to be stopped by the British and French forces. The German offensive was to be stopped by the British and French forces.

Prussian Guard Fared No Better Than Their Comrades.

"Documents found on dead officers, the report says, proved that the Guard regiments of the German Emperor's special command to break through and succeed, where their comrades of the line had failed.

"They took the leading part in the vigorous attacks made against the center on the eleventh and twelfth, says General French, but, like their comrades, were repulsed with enormous casualties.

"General French pays high tribute to Sir Douglas Haig, and his divisional and brigade commanders, who, he says, "held the line with marvellous tenacity and undaunted courage."

"High praise is also paid the Third Cavalry Division, under Major General Julian Byng, whose troops were repeatedly called upon to restore order at critical points, and fill gaps in the line caused by the tremendous losses which occurred.

"General French makes special mention of Col. Gordon Chesney Wilson, of the Royal Horse Guards; Major the Hon. Hugh Dawnay, of the Second Life Guards, and of Brig. Gen. Fitzroy Maclean, of the Irish Guards, who were killed, and of Brig. General, the Earl of Cavan, who, on many occasions was conspicuous for his skill, coolness and courage with which he led his troops. Of the Plying Corps the report says: "Every day new methods of employing them, both strategical and tactical, are discovered and put into practice."

Concerning the Territorials who have been employed, the Field Marshal says: "The conduct and bearing of these units under fire, and the efficiency in which they have carried out the duties assigned to them, has imbued me with the highest hope as to the value and the help of the Territorial troops generally."

## RUSSIAN WAR OFFICE AGAIN WARNS AGAINST EXAGGERATED REPORTS

Admits German Plan to Pierce Line on Vistula Has Completely Failed, but Says 'Big Battle in Poland Has Not Yet Been Fought to Finish' Although Czar's Forces Have All Advantage in Fighting to Date Both in East and in Carpathians.

### CONCEDE IMPORTANT SUCCESSES OVER AUSTRIANS NEAR CRACOW

Rout Austrians and Capture 7,000 Prisoners With 30 Cannon and 20 Machine Guns — Inflict Enormous Losses on the Turks, Almost Annihilating One Regiment and Cutting Two Others to Pieces.

London, Nov. 29.—Reuter's Petrograd correspondent sends an official statement which warns the public to observe caution in accepting rumors of a crushing Russian victory.

"The statement says the German retreat are offering desperate resistance, and the battle has not yet been finished.

"The statement was issued by the Russian headquarters staff, and deals with the various rumors circulating on the dimensions of an alleged Russian victory between the Vistula and the Warta rivers. The statement says:

"These rumors are partly based on private letters from the seat of war, published in certain journals. The headquarters staff warns the public that these rumors are not founded on facts, and must be received with reserve.

"At the very beginning of the war, the headquarters staff recommended the necessity of receiving with reserve all news not emanating from an official source.

"Undoubtedly the German plan to pierce our front on the left bank of the Vistula and surround part of the Russian army has completely failed. It appears from the communications of the staff commander-in-chief that the Germans have been compelled to fall back from Ragow and Tuszyn through Berezyn on Strykow under conditions most disadvantageous to them. The Germans suffered enormous losses during the retreat.

"The fighting, however, is not yet finished. The battle on the whole front is developing very favorably for us.

"The enemy, however, continues to offer stubborn resistance. It is impossible, therefore, to consider the operations ended, and it is necessary to await the revelation of its final results in the firm assurance that the Russian troops are fully conscious of the necessity for successfully concluding

their heroic efforts in order to shatter the enemy's resistance."

Petrograd, Nov. 28.—A communication given out today by the General Staff of the Russian army says: "Our troops have won important successes along the Prochovite-Brestok-Hochnia-Vismitch front (in Galicia and from 30 to 60 miles southeast of Cracow) in this locality on November 26 we routed an Austrian army, taking more than 7,000 prisoners, capturing 30 cannon, 10 of which were outfitted with horses, and over 20 machine guns.

"A Russian battalion at Brzesko captured what was left of the thirty-first regiment of Hungarian Honveds. These prisoners included the commandant, twenty officers and 1,250 soldiers, and also the flag. We also took an automobile carrying officers of the General Staff. We are continuing our energetic pursuit of the enemy.

"In the fighting at Lodz which continued November 23, we succeeded also in making progress at certain points.

"In the Carpathians our troops have attacked considerable Austrian forces. Inflict Enormous Losses on Turks. London, Nov. 28.—Reuter's Petrograd correspondent sends the following despatch from the Russian army headquarters in the Caucasus: "The Turks defeated in the recent fighting, suffered enormous losses in all their regiments.

"The 28th and 29th divisions lost half their effectiveness, and the 28th regiment was almost entirely destroyed. "The commander of the 34th division was killed near Maslagat. The commander of the 33rd division deserted and has been replaced. "The Turkish commander-in-chief has decided to disband the Kuris, whose work was unsatisfactory. "The fighting recently has been important."

## LOSS OF TWO GERMAN WARSHIPS REPORTED

Paris Hears of Loss of Cruiser Hertha Near Libau and Sinking of Battleship Kaiser Wilhelm Der Gross in Baltic—Neither Report Confirmed—British Territorials Pouring Into France—Report of Salvino of Battleship Audacious Persistent in London.

London, Nov. 29.—Following the report from Petrograd on damage inflicted upon the German fleet by the Russians in September, comes the report through Paris that the German cruiser Hertha has been sunk near Libau. There also are rumors that the German battleship Kaiser Wilhelm Der Grosse has been torpedoed in the Baltic Sea. Both these reports lack confirmation.

London, Nov. 29.—(Correspondence)—Directly following Lord Kitchener's speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet in London, in which he said he had 1,500,000 men ready to land in France, there had been a steady stream of transports from England to Havre.

As many as 200 ships of various sizes, have been lying outside the harbor at one time. Men are being landed as fast as the ships can gain berths. The troops are mostly Territorials, but well seasoned. After a march from the docks through the streets of Havre, cheering and being cheered, they disappeared. The incoming troops seem in high spirits, and sing and whistle on the march.

Riot Follows Proclamation of Holy War. Petrograd, Nov. 25. (Via London, 2.50 p. m.)—A dispatch received here from Odessa describes an outbreak of fanatical rioting in Erzerum. Dispatches reaching Odessa from this Turkish city say that following the posting of a proclamation calling the Mohammedans to a holy war, all the Armenian clubs, churches and schools were demolished by a mob. Four Armenians, including one woman, were killed on the spot. London, Nov. 21.—(Correspondence)—Persistent rumors are in circulation here that the battleship Audacious, which was sunk by a mine off a submarine off the north coast of Ireland on October 27, has been salvaged. According to these reports the wrecking vessels of the Admiralty succeeded in getting the big guns off the Audacious and afterward beached her. The ship is said to be in a condition for repairs and service after a short time.