

Summary of Events from Seat of War

Items of Interest in the Great European War as Recorded Day by Day

Germans Are Vigorously Assailed by Russians

General Von Hindenberg Virtually Surrounded and in Danger of Capture.

Petrograd, Nov. 28.—The Russian forces are now vigorously assailing the Germans entrenched in the vicinity of Lodz, Segiers, Zdrunska and Wola.

This is the district in which official despatches insist a large detachment of the army of General von Hindenberg has been virtually surrounded and is in danger of destruction or capture.

An official statement today based upon a report received from Grand Duke Nicholas of the operations in Poland tells of the fighting along the vast Polish front. The Germans who advanced along the Vistula by way of Plock have now been thrown back within ten miles of that town, which is 54 miles from Warsaw.

The report from Grand Duke Nicholas does not refer to the rout of the German forces except upon the southern end of the battle line, where the Austro-German army is declared to be retreating toward Cracow in great disorder and that the Russians are vigorously pursuing the retreating forces. In all more than 5,000 prisoners were taken by the Russian army and many guns captured.

It is evident that the most desperate fighting has marked the engagements all along the line. The statement frequently refers to the use of the bayonet in driving out the Germans.

The statement declares the Russians are advancing on the left bank of the Vistula and have reached Gubin in the center. The town of

Breziny and villages in the valley have been occupied. The Germans being expelled at the point of the bayonet. Between Brzeziny and Glogow the Russian cavalry successfully attacked the German infantry, capturing guns and a number of prisoners. In the district of Zdrunska and Wola the Germans retain their trenches, but are being vigorously assailed by the Russians.

From Podz, on the Czestochowa-Cracow front, the Russian success is becoming more and more definite. Four thousand prisoners were taken on Thursday in successful attacks in the region of lower Threnava, where a battalion of the thirty-first Hovved were captured. The Russians occupied a strongly fortified position on the left bank of the Kaba.

The Austrians stubbornly defended Bechnia, but it was taken at the bayonet point, 2,000 prisoners and guns being captured. On the right bank of the Vistula the enemy is retreating in great disorder toward Cracow, vigorously pursued.

Paris, Nov. 28.—The correspondent of the Metin in Petrograd says he learns from competent military sources that the losses of the Germans in Poland on November 28th were considerable and that an army corps was made prisoner, and another corps was routed.

General Von Hindenberg, the German commander, received the following telegram from Emperor William before the battle of Lodz:

"Distinguish yourself. The eyes of the world are upon you."

Heavy German Losses By Allies' Artillery

British War Vessels Again Bombarding the Belgian Coast—Execution by Heavy Guns.

Paris, Nov. 28.—The French War Office gave out an official communication this afternoon as follows:

"In Belgium the artillery exchanges were continued during the day of November 27, without any particular incident. The heavy German artillery showed less activity. There was but one attack of infantry to the south of Ypres, which was repulsed by our troops.

"Toward the evening our artillery brought down a German biplane carrying three aviators. One of them was killed, and the other two were made prisoners.

"In the region of Arras and further to the south, there has been no change. The day passed very quietly in the region of the Aisne. In Champagne our heavy artillery inflicted serious losses on the enemy.

From the Argennes to the voge, there is nothing to report."

London, Nov. 28.—A Rotterdam despatch to the Daily Mail says: "Heavy firing was heard on Friday afternoon in the direction of Zabruggen and allied aeroplanes were seen circling over Flanders. British destroyers continue scouting off the coast."

Amsterdam, via London, Nov. 28.—

A telegram to the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant from Ostburg, Holland, states that sounds of a violent cannonading were again audible on Friday in a southeasterly direction. The source, the telegram says, indicates that the British fleet was again bombarding the coast.

London, Nov. 28.—The Times correspondent telegraphs from Petrograd:

"Colonel Shumsky, in the Bourse Gazette deems it very probable that the German general staff in the present critical situation, is trying to send units from its strategic reserve in Germany. More than a week will be necessary for the journey to the battle zone, and it is safe to declare that the German reinforcements will arrive only at the close of the Lodz operations.

"The enemy is suffering severely from frost. The position of the garrison of Przmysl, destitute of warm clothing and obliged to pass days and nights in the trenches, is particularly trying. Deserters say that every morning whole files of soldiers with frost bitten hands or feet arrive at the hospitals.

"The Austrian military authorities are seriously alarmed at the wholesale surrender of their troops."

German Officer Confesses British Are No Easy Enemy

New York, Nov. 27.—An interesting description of how the British soldier impresses his enemies is given in a mail despatch received by the Associated Press from Berlin, under date of Nov. 4.

An earnest warning, the despatch says against underestimation of the British troops, such as has been customary with a certain section of the German press, is sent home by a well known Berlin newspaper man who is serving as first lieutenant with a regiment facing the British forces near Ypres.

His regiment, he writes, marched out with the idea that the British had only to run with, and that real fighting spirit or skill in arms was lacking in them. A few hours' contact with the British, however, showed that they were no easy enemy.

"The English infantry which opposed us there in the vicinity of Ypres must be characterized as troops of the first quality," he writes. "From the start it was noteworthy, with what high energy the British troops defended their positions against our attacks. After being driven out they kept trying again and again, particularly by night attacks, to regain lost ground. They were supported most effectively by their field artillery, which, like the French, is at least as good as ours.

The British had also brought up heavy naval guns in the vicinity of Ypres, and the English shells and shrapnel caused us considerable loss. "The skill of the British soldier in utilizing every advantage of the country was very noticeable in the numerous engagements in the vicinity of Ypres. The British trenches were usually so skillfully constructed that they could not be made out with the naked eye. When we had stormed the first trenches we were astonished to find how well laid out they were, particularly in depth, side protection against shell fragments, splinterproofs and, above all, in regard to

the way in which the plots of steel and iron were built into the breastworks.

"The shelter pits evidently had been arranged with all possible comfort for an extended stay, and our men rejoiced of the wonderful canned goods, corned beef, ham and other supplies they found in them.

"The British often lay out dummy trenches, setting up turnips or clods of earth to deceive us. The firing line, taking full advantage of cover, lies so far in front or behind these trenches that it suffers very little from our fire, directed against the supposed trenches. It often happened that we came under heavy infantry and machine gun fire from the edge of a wood, returned the fire and stormed the wood, to find only when we entered it that the defenders were in the tree tops, not on the ground. As to patrols, I have often followed British patrols for some distance with the glass, and so far as I could see, they mislead none of the fine points of the game—something which cannot always be said of our patrols.

"In night fighting the enemy often follows tactics new to us. It is our rule in night fighting to refrain from shooting, if possible, but to use the bayonet, and to shoot in any case only when it is light enough to aim. The allies, on the contrary, have in many instances adopted for infantry the same principle as for artillery fire—namely, that of strewing a certain area by night with fire.

"The village of Becelaere, which my regiment had stormed at 1 o'clock after nightfall, was subjected to such a hail of infantry fire that we finally had to evacuate it. We then occupied trenches near Becelaere, and were subjected to fire from infantry and machine guns, which caused us little loss, it is true, but gave the tired troops not an instant's rest. That probably was the enemy's intention.

Audacious Safely Raised And in Belfast, is Report

Dreadnought Said to Have Been Drawn Into Shallow Water, Patched Up, and Towed to Harland and Wolff Drydock

New York, Nov. 27.—Passengers arriving today on the steamer Lusitania from Liverpool, say that the dreadnought Audacious, reported sunk off the Irish coast, has been raised and is now in a Harland and Wolff drydock at Belfast, undergoing repairs. According to J. J. Spurgeon, one of the passengers, the ship is generally current in Liverpool and is accepted as true by those in the inside, although the same degree of secrecy is maintained as to salvage operations as was the case regarding the sinking of the battleship and the attendant rescue of her men by the steamship Olympic.

The report is that the Audacious did not sink in the spot where she was left by the Olympic, but that other vessels succeeded in drawing her into shallow water, where the hole in her bottom was patched sufficiently to permit her being towed to Belfast.

The passengers on board included Col. G. Patterson Murphy and Col. H. McLean, who were attached to the first expeditionary force of Canada. They are returning home, but declined to discuss their mission or the war.

The Lusitania brought 4,000 bags of mail matter, a considerable portion of which is for Canada.

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.

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 Der Grosse has been torpedoed in the Baltic Sea. Both these reports lack confirmation.

Havre, France, Nov. 19.—(Correspondence)—Directly following Lord Kitchener's speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet in London, in which he said he had 1,250,000 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.

Petrograd, Nov. 28.—(via London 2:50 p. m.)—A despatch received here from Odessa describes an outbreak of fanatical rioting in Erzerum. Dispatches reaching Odessa from this Turkish city say that following the putting 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 street.

London, Nov. 21.—(Correspondence)—Persistent rumors are in circulation here that the battleship Audacious, which was sunk by a mine or 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.

Allies Taking Offensive; German Line Weakening

Germans Reported Having Brought up 700,000 Men to Make Another Attack on British and French.

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 Despatches 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.

CANADIAN KILLED IN BATTLE IN BELGIUM

London, Ont., Nov. 28.—Relatives have just received word that Alfred Amos, one of the first reservists to answer the call, was killed in Belgium. He was bugler in the Highland Light Infantry.

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Urgent Relief to the Inhabitants of Large Sections of Belgium is Greatly Needed at Once—Canada Will Do Her Share—New Brunswick Must Help.

The Belgian Relief Committee in St. John is prepared to receive gifts of money, food and clothing to be forwarded to Belgium for distribution by British and Belgian authorities. Cash gifts should be sent to Mayor Frink, chairman and treasurer of the fund.

The committee appeal to clergymen, churches and organizations of all kinds and to private individuals to co-operate with contributions and in organizing sales and entertainments.

A depot for receiving food and clothing has been opened in the new Pettingill warehouse, Water street. This committee will be glad to receive clothing of all description, new or old, for men, women and children, blankets of wool or cotton, and food of non-perishable nature that can be transported to Belgium.

Shipments from outside points to the Belgian Relief Committee will be handled by the railways free of charge. Information as to the plans of the committee will gladly be furnished any desiring to assist by the secretary, G. E. Barbour, St. John N. B. Telephone Main 216.

The local Branch of the Red Cross Society will receive all contributions to the Belgian Fund at the Town Hall on Tuesday evenings.

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