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CRITICAL PERIOD DEVELOPING NOW —GRAND DUKE CALLED THERE TO ASSUME THE OFFENSIVE— IN THE CAUCASUS, THINK SOME

Public Feeling is Much Perturbed Over Change.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
London, Sept. 9.—Great concern is expressed by the morning papers over changes in the Russian higher commands. It is considered natural, however, that at a time of such national gravity the Czar should assume supreme command as he is both the spiritual and secular head of the empire in a way not easily understood in Western Europe.
As the Times' editorial says, if the Emperor takes the field in person, it is to overcome at the same time two of Russia at home and embattled toes, who are striking at his sovereignty. "None can know better what vast issues are involved than the monarch, who, in the early years of his reign, favored clemency for Poland and sought to promote human welfare through The Hague conference and who, since the death of his heroic wife, freed his people from the evils of alcohol, and who rejoices in the title of "little father" of his people. Such a monarch may well instill new confidence in his troops and steel their hearts afresh for victory."
DISSIPATES PEACE IDEA
It is universally agreed that the Emperor's action dissipates any idea that Russia will listen to proposals for a separate peace, but what puzzles the British press is how to explain the removal of Grand Duke Nicholas to another sphere. The Chronicle fears Berlin will rejoice at his removal which, therefore, bears a sinister aspect. At the same time the Chronicle, like all other papers, has only the highest praise for the manner in which the Grand Duke conducted the great retirement forced upon him by a shortage of munitions.
The Times' military expert also applauds the Grand Duke's strategy in having reunited his northern and central armies and successfully passed the moment of greatest danger. The correspondent says he cannot believe the removal of the Grand Duke implies any change in the conduct of the campaign. He says that short of some serious mistake which the Grand Duke has shown no signs of making, the Russian can now carry on an orderly and quiet retreat, fighting where they please and as long as it pleases them, until the wet season imposes a halt on their enemies.
The correspondent declares he fails to understand why a mass of Austrian troops was kept quiescent in Galicia during two critical months instead of being transferred to the Vistula front for the profit of the decisive operation there. He considers that in this the Germans showed poor strategy and threw away an opportunity which may never recur. The Petrograd correspondent of the Times thinks the appointment of Gen. Polivanoff minister of war, as premier, will be announced soon, and points out that the imperial order coincides with the beginning of a solemn fast ordered by the holy synod which adds solemnity to an historical event.
NEW VIGOROUS OFFENSIVE
Other papers suggest that the appointment of the Grand Duke as commander-in-chief in the Caucasus implies a new and vigorous offensive against Turkey.
The Post's Petrograd correspondent declares it is no secret that many attempts have been made through the Austro-Hungarian command to remove the Grand Duke from command by violence and explains that masterly as the Russian retirement has been, a retreat does not appeal to the public mind. Hence, he says, it may be supposed that the Emperor's action was to unite the entire nation in carrying on the war. Moreover, he declares, Russia has exceedingly important interests on her Asiatic front, which, in view of all absorbing menace from the west slipped rather into the background and the Grand Duke is going to the Caucasus at the moment when it is felt a great crisis is approaching there.
STARTED FOR CAUCASUS
London, Sept. 9.—A Reuters dispatch from Petrograd says that the Grand Duke Nicholas and his headquarters staff started for the Caucasus last evening. Emperor Nicholas went to the railroad station to say farewell to the new viceroy.

Washington Thinks She Struck a Mine, Though Huns' Reply is Waited

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Washington, Sept. 9.—Germany's note explaining the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic, with the loss of American lives was awaited to-day by administration officials who declined to comment on versions of its text contained in Berlin press dispatches. The note, delivered by the Berlin Foreign Office to Ambassador Gerard on Tuesday was understood to ascribe the liner's destruction by a submarine to self-defence, expressing regret over the loss of American lives and to propose to refer to The Hague questions of reparation and compensation.
Assurances previously had been expressed by Ambassador Van Buren that full satisfaction could be given in connection with the Arabic's destruction. While some officials thought the submarine commander's explanation appeared unconvincing it was made known that judgment would not be passed until the official text of the note had been received here and decided.
Investigation of the sinking of the Allan liner Hesperian continued to-day. Ambassador Gerard had been instructed to report any information available in Berlin and efforts were directed to clearing up reports that the ship was torpedoed, but belief still prevails in naval circles in Washington that she encountered a mine.

PTE. KNOWLES ARRIVED HOME FROM FRANCE

Has Interesting Story to Tell—He Was Twice Wounded.

Pte. George Knowles arrived in the city this morning from the front. He has been in the midst of the heaviest fighting in France and Belgium, and was twice wounded, being hit in the left wrist and in the hip.
After he had received these wounds he was sent across the Channel to his native land, and placed in a Scotch hospital. Here he recuperated quickly and was soon able to walk slowly around. His injured hip still hurts a little, but it is not entirely disabled.
And so after thirteen months of hard service in the trenches, he again arrived in Brantford. He is broken in health but not in spirit, and although he has his discharge papers, would not mind having another go at the Germans.
"It is awful over there sometimes," he stated; "you fellows here can't imagine how terrible it is until you get over there."
Pte. Knowles is a Canadian, but English by birth. He stated that it was good to see the old country again, but it was better still to get back to dear old Canada. He lives in West Brantford, and was given a rousing welcome by his friends and people there.

Powder Mill Blown Up

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Peoria, Ill., Sept. 9.—A powder mill at Edward's Station, near here, is reported to have been blown up to-day.

SIR GILBERT PARKER NOW TELLS PEOPLE THE TRUTH

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Ann Arbor, Mich., Sept. 9.—Sir Gilbert Parker, the novelist, has written from London to Professor William Hobbs, of the University of Michigan, a letter in which he denies that the Englishman was apathetic in his war. "I must make a firm protest against the wicked charges made against the working classes of this country," says Sir Gilbert. "Believe me, they are not more unpatriotic than any other people in the world. They are not commanded and controlled, dragooned and conscripted as the working classes are in other European countries, and perhaps they have not the same national ambitions, since they have been brought up with the idea of fulfilling themselves rather than upbuilding a state; but since the war began they have contributed enormously in numbers to the three million and a quarter of soldiers, who have voluntarily enlisted to serve their country. If they have not made it (Continued on Page 4)

Britishers Are Not Pathetic Or Shirkers Prevalent.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
London, Sept. 9.—The German version of the latest Austrian war office statement received here by wireless from Berlin, asserts that 20 Russian officers, 4,400 men and seven machine guns were captured when Austro-Hungarian troops captured Russian positions near the mouth of the Sereth River.
The Austrian official statement received last night from Vienna, while chronicling the capture of positions at Szipaka, makes no reference to the capture of Russian troops at that point.

FORTY-ONE OF NORWAY'S SHIPS HAVE PERISHED

Since Beginning of War, Mostly by Torpedoes, Some by Mines.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Washington, Sept. 9.—Forty one ships flying the Norwegian flag have been lost since the beginning of war in Europe, and 76 sailors have perished, according to a report received at the state department to-day from the American minister at Christiania. Thirteen ships were destroyed by mines, 24 were sunk by torpedoes, three disappeared in the war zone and one was crushed by a German warship, the report stated. Another ship was taken as a prize to Hamburg.
The extensive losses have impelled the Norwegian war risk insurance bureau to increase premiums and adopt additional restrictions. The bureau to date, the report stated, had sustained losses of \$2,800,000, while premiums collected amounted to only \$1,620,000.
Recent losses had been almost entirely due to torpedoes, the report stated, and suggested that shortage of explosives had resulted in more restricted use of expensive and unsatisfactory mines.
Resting Easily.
By Special Wire to the Courier.
Ottawa, Sept. 9.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier underwent an operation at Water Street Hospital to-day, an abscess and a tooth in the lower jaw being removed. It was announced this afternoon that he was resting easily.
John Guttinger's will left his gun and uniform to the German Club at Cleveland "for parades and funerals."

Transport Torpedoed!

By Special Wire to the Courier.
BERLIN, Sept. 9.—(By wireless to Tuckerton).—A statement given out by the Overseas News Agency to-day quotes the Weserzeitung of Bremen as saying that the British steamship Southland, serving as a transport, was torpedoed recently in Turkish waters.
Rev. Rufus T. Cooper, formerly Methodist pastor in Indiana was arrested for begging at Mount Vernon, N.Y.
A wild cat sprang on to the dinner table of Mrs. Maria Baker at Long Hill Beach, L.I., and scattered the guests.

FRENCH AGAIN REPULSE HEAVY INFANTRY ATTACK

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Paris, Sept. 9.—There was very violent fighting last night in the Argonne region, according to an announcement made this afternoon by the French war office. The Germans attacked the French lines with great ferocity, but with one exception these lines everywhere held fast. The French took some prisoners.
Mr. A. H. Stevens of the Ford Motor Co., Walkerville, has returned after spending his vacation at the parental home.
Mr. Howard Kenwick of Saranac, Mich., is visiting Mr. Charlie Laing, St. Paul's avenue. While here, he will visit Toronto, Niagara Falls and other points.
Miss Alice Innesher leaves Friday for Pittsburgh, Pa., where she will enter the training school for nurses at the Allegheny General Hospital. Miss Mildred Thresher, of Wilkensburg, Pa., who has been visiting friends in the city for the past three weeks, will return with her sister.
A kitchen shower was held last night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tanner, 47 Emily street in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Tanner. A number of their friends gathered and made the presentation and the evening spent in games and music, at which a dainty lunch was served. The happy crowd broke up at an early hour after having spent a pleasant evening.
GOLF NOTES
The September Cup, presented by Mr. Logan Waterhouse, will be played off on Saturday afternoon next.

LONDONERS GET FIRST GLIMPSE OF REAL WAR

Meagre Details of Zeppelin Raid, in Which Twenty Persons Were Killed.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
London, Sept. 9.—Twenty persons were killed and 86 others injured in last night's Zeppelin raid.
These figures were given out here officially to-day. The German airship flew over the eastern counties of England and the London district.
The official statement given the following list of casualties:
Killed—12 men, two women and six children.
Injured—seriously—8 men, 4 women and 2 children.
Injured—slightly—38 men, 23 women and 11 children.
One soldier was killed and three were injured. All the other victims were civilians.
CASUALTIES SO FAR
The attack of last night brings up the total of casualties from Zeppelin raids to 122 killed and 349 injured. On the previous night 13 persons were killed and 43 wounded.
FIRST GLIMPSE OF WAR
London, Sept. 9.—The raid of Zeppelins last night is described by the Pall Mall Gazette as "Londoners' first glimpse of the war at close quarters."
The Evening Standard speaks of the coolness shown everywhere but warns the public against the noticeably widespread and dangerous disposition to regard the affair as a specie of spectacle.
It suggests that in addition to the Zeppelin, which, within limits, is "a terrible instrument of war," there is also danger from anti-aircraft guns. Therefore, the public, it says, would be well advised to take aerial visitors more seriously than it did last night.
NEARER HEART OF CITY
In his official statement concerning the airship raid, stated that the Zeppelins visited the eastern counties and the London district. English newspapers are prohibited from publishing uncensored details concerning such attacks, but the foregoing guarded references indicate that the Zeppelins approached the heart of the city more closely than on previous occasions.

Local Soldiers Are Called For From Niagara

Colonel Harry Genet wired to Captain Cutcliffe this morning, stating that he needed both Corporal Glad Raymond and Pte. Percy Farnsworth at Niagara immediately.
These two volunteers will leave the city on Saturday morning at 10.25 for camp, and a rousing send off will be given them.
EX-CAPTAIN OF CAPETS.
Corporal Gladstone Raymond was born in the city just 23 years ago and is the son of Postmaster W. G. Raymond. He has lived in the city all his life and is very popular and well known here. As a cadet he rapidly rose to the rank of Captain and it is this experience which gave him his Corporal's stripes in the Duffs.
He has been a faithful government official or seven years.
AN OLD SOLDIER.
Pte. Percy Farnsworth is also very well known in the city. He has lived here for about six and a half years, and has efficiently held the position of choirmaster at St. Jude's for six years. He is also a government official having been a custom officer for at least three years.
Besides this Pte. Farnsworth is an old soldier and has served under the King's colors for many years. While in England he served in the 1st Derbyshire Volunteers, Sherwood Foresters for a period of seven years.
He has also worn a 38th Dufferin Rifles uniform for six years.

YANKEE PRESS COMMENTS ON CHANGE OF LEADERS

By Special Wire to the Courier.
New York, Sept. 9.—Commenting editorially on the new head of the Russian army, the Times says: "Something hieratic, symbolic, byzantine, clings to the Czar of all the Russians. To multitudes of his people he is a king of sacred iron, if not a divinity. As in years that outrun memory, the chief of the clan, the head of the horde, the king, led his wild followers to battle, so Nicholas II. puts himself at the front of the armies of the nation. A stimulation of patriotism, a half religious fervor creeping through all that mighty mass of men and races, may be stirred thereby. A fine bit of decoration, a good stroke of business.
But as the Czar takes his place in the pageant the Russian hero of the war, the victor of Galicia, the captor of Przemysl, the consummate captain who has eluded again and again the Austro-German efforts to envelop him, whose mastery skill in

Graft and Incompetence Freely Given as Reasons.

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Proposal to Have Troops Train Here

There is a movement on foot to have a battalion located in Brantford during the winter.
There would be a total of between twelve and fourteen hundred men in all, and the item of accommodation calls for the most consideration.
This city has abundantly demonstrated its value as a centre for recruiting, and it is generally felt entitled to consideration in the way suggested.
A number of influential men are getting together with a view to a survey of the possibilities, and the sending of a delegation to the military authorities.

RUSSIANS MADE A BIG EFFORT AT TARNOPOL AND ROUTED HUNS

—LACK OF ARTILLERY, HOWEVER, WITHHELD FULL SUCCESS—

Secretary of State Has Taken Up Matter of Attempted Dynamiting

By Special Wire to the Courier.
New York Sept. 9.—A letter written by Governor Whitman to Mayor Mitchell of this city on August 31, last, calling attention to the fact that Secretary of State Lansing had taken up with the governor the matter of placing explosives on British ships sailing from this port and suggesting that every possible preventive measure be taken was made public last night.
After saying that he knew the local authorities had already taken cognizance of the matter, the governor continued:
"I desire to call your attention to the situation relative to the offenses and to the importance attached thereto by the secretary of state and to urge upon you, and through you, upon those charged with the duty of preventing the commission of crime and the punishment of offenders against our criminal laws, the importance of taking such precautions as will prevent the repetition of offenses similar to those complained of in the future, and to use every effort to bring to justice those guilty of such offenses in the past."
"I cannot too strongly urge upon you the imperative necessity for such action. The good name of our state and of the city of New York is at stake and calls for this active vigilance, and we owe it to the national administration to render all possible aid in preserving the neutrality of our country as between warring nations in Europe by preventing the commission of such offenses in the future."

ITALIAN SCHEME OF ISOLATION IS SUCCESSFUL

New Phase of Operations Has Been Entered Upon—Great News Soon.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Rome, Sept. 9.—The Italian army has passed a new phase on its offensive operations. Important news affecting the entire Trentino salient is now awaited.
The danger of the great wedge, which passes through Italy's national line of defence in the north, has not only been a problem for the armed forces of the nation, but has been constantly in the mind's eye of the whole people as an ominous threat for the day when war should come. There is reason now to believe that General Cadorna has conjured the evil and even has devised a means of turning it against the enemy.
After several weeks devoted to the work of clearing the Tyrol valleys in the German district and breaking down the advance works of the numerous forts around Monte Croce di Padola, the Italian commander recently brought up a number of batteries of medium calibre and prepared the ground for an important assault. The attack was begun on Monday and is still in progress.
Reports from Austrian sources show that much apprehension is felt by the general staff regarding the outcome of this attack. It is a blow at the main railroad line connecting the Trentino with the heart of Austria.
The Italian effort is directed to the capture of Toblach and Imtschich, both of which are important towns on the railway. Should it be successful the Italian forces expect to have little difficulty practically in isolating the Trentino salient.

HUN RESERVIST FOUND GUILTY OF PERJURY

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In the meantime there may be some interesting disclosures in the Stahl matter. Stahl's false affidavit about the Lusitania being armed was forwarded to the State Department by Ambassador von Bernstorff as part of a German excuse for the sinking of the liner and the sacrifice of scores of American lives.
The United States district attorney has evidence upon which he bases the belief that Stahl did not make the affidavit of his own volition. An effort will be made to discover who employed him to swear that the Lusitania was an armed ship.
The indictment charging Stahl with perjury was not based on his affidavit sent by the German Ambassador to the State Department. Stahl repeated the statement under oath in a John Doe proceeding before the Federal grand jury on June 10. It was for this that he was indicted. He entered his plea of guilty yesterday on advice of his counsel, Harold S. Deming, who had conferred at length with United States District Attorney Marshall.

Whole Line Now Stands Fast Before Hun Armies.

Petrograd, Sept. 8.—Via London, Sept. 9.—In an official statement issued to-night at the war office, occurs the following:
"On the Riga-Dvinsk front the general situation remains unchanged. German attempts to advance Tuesday in the region of the railway station at Gross Ekau (south of Riga) and Neuhut were repulsed. In the direction of Dvinsk there were only unimportant advance post actions. The fight for the River Lantze continues. In order to occupy a more covered position our troops removed a little to the right of the Lantze."
NO CHANGES
"There have been no important changes on the routes toward Vilna. The Germans directed a violent artillery fire, accompanied by asphyxiating gases, against our troops occupying the outlets from the lakes in the region of Novo Troki. Near the town of Orany the enemy yesterday made attempts at an offensive."
"From Grodno, stubborn German attacks continue in the region of the railway station at Druskeniki and towards Sidel. In the latter direction, repulsing the enemy, we inflicted on him great losses and took some scores of prisoners."
ENEMY ATTACKING
"South of the Niemen the enemy delivered extremely stubborn attacks in the region of Wolkowysk on both sides of the railway leading to Slonim. On the roads from Lutsk to Rovno there has been no change. In the region of Doubhok and Remezet we occupied new positions on the Rivers Ikwa and Upper Goryn."
SHORT OF SHELLS.
"In Galicia near Tarnopol yesterday we achieved a great success against the Germans. The German third guards division and the 48th reserve division, reinforced by an Austrian brigade with great quantities of heavy and light artillery, according to statements made by prisoners had been preparing for several days for a decisive attack. This was fixed for the night of Tuesday and Wednesday. Forfeiting the enemy our troops took the offensive and after a stubborn fight on the River Doljotka, the Germans were completely defeated Tuesday evening. At the end of the engagement the enemy developed an artillery fire of most extraordinary intensity. Only the impossibility of replying with the same weight of metal prevented us from further developing the success we had obtained. The Germans, besides suffering enormous losses in killed and wounded left prisoners in our hands more than 200 officers and 8,000 men. We captured thirty guns, fourteen of which were of heavy calibre, many machine guns, gun limbers and other booty."
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"After a brief pursuit our troops occupied their former positions on the River Sereth. The Emperor, having received a report of the defeat inflicted upon the enemy, sent an order to express to his valorous troops his joy and thankfulness for their success and the heavy losses inflicted on the enemy."
"Further south in the region of Trembowla on the 7th we dislodged the enemy from a series of villages, making prisoners over 40 officers and nearly 2,500 soldiers, together with three guns and a dozen machine guns."
FURTHER SUCCESSES
"Between the Dniester and the left bank of the Lower Sereth the Austrians passed to the offensive in the course of the 7th in the region of the Village of Voriatyntze. By flank attacks one of our battalions arrested the enemy's offensive and took prisoners 11 officers and over 1,000 Austrians with machine guns."
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